

SWEET SAVIOUR HOW CHOCOLATE SHAPED BRITAIN

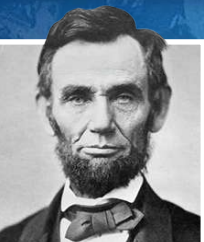
HISTORY

REVEALED

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POSTER
INSIDE**

KINGS AND QUEENS OF BRITAIN

BRINGING THE PAST TO LIFE
ISSUE 15 // APRIL 2015 // £3.99



**ABRAHAM
LINCOLN**

America's defining President?

**GREAT TRAIN
ROBBERY**

PLUS

**GOODFELLAS: THE
NEW YORK MAFIA**

DICK TURPIN: HIGHWAYMAN

THE REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE

GREECE'S ACROPOLIS

BICENTENNIAL 1815 – 2015

WATERLOO

Napoleon, Wellington and the events that
changed the world: the definitive story



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Welcome



Waterloo has become synonymous with ultimate defeat – to meet one's Waterloo is to come up against an insurmountable obstacle. Yet the popular notion that **Napoleon was outwitted by the Duke of Wellington** is some way wide of the truth. In this month's bumper cover feature, celebrated author and historian **Adrian Goldsworthy** uncovers what happened on that Belgian field **200 years ago** – and, crucially, why it mattered so much (p26).

Sticking with anniversaries, it's 150 years this month since the end of the American Civil War, and the assassination of **Abraham Lincoln** (p67). We look at his legacy, and ask whether he was **America's all-time greatest President**.

Away from politics and the battlefield, we tell the extraordinary story of Alexander Selkirk (p60), whose **four years alone on a desert island** may have inspired Daniel Defoe's classic

novel *Robinson Crusoe*. And Easter seems as good a time as any to explore **our love of chocolate** (p74).

As ever, please do keep your letters, emails and messages coming – we love to hear what you've thought each month, and **what you'd like to read** more of in future issues!

Lastly for now, I hope you enjoy your free **Kings and Queens of Britain** poster, which comes with this issue – and if your freebie's missing, just call the number above for a replacement.

Paul

Paul McGuinness
Editor

Don't miss our May issue, on sale 30 April



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THIS MONTH WE'VE LEARNED...

307

Total jail sentences (in years) handed out to 12 of the Great Train Robbers. See page 16.

Zero

The number of human casualties at the first skirmish of the American Civil War (there was one casualty – a mule). See page 68.

52

Months spent as a castaway by 'the real Robinson Crusoe', Alexander Selkirk. See page 64.

ON THE COVER

Your key to the big stories...





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The clash that
redefined Europe



60

How marooned
mariner Alexander
Selkirk survived
being cast away



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When 'goodfellas'
ruled the streets of
New York City



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Was Lincoln
the greatest
US president?

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WATERLOO

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The tale that inspired *Robinson Crusoe*... 60

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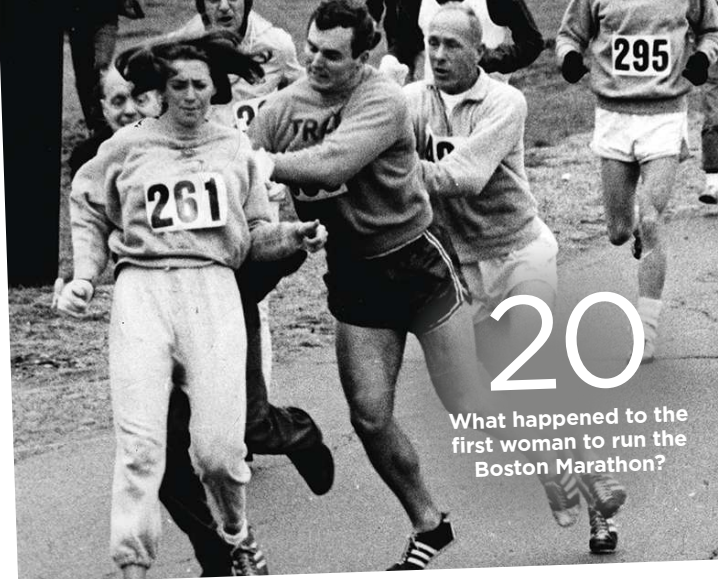
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Stories that made the news in Aprils past - including the arrival of bananas in London



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How the near-legendary highwayman Dick Turpin was caught

APRIL 2015

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READERS' LETTERS

Get in touch – share your opinions on history and our magazine

TOP COACH

I was delighted to see the article on the [Manchester United] soccer air tragedy (Yesterday's Papers, February 2015), because Dennis Viollet ended up in Jacksonville, Florida, coaching a number of teams from the North American Soccer League, including my son's U16 team.

I was lucky to have Dennis as a mentor for many years and he became a good friend. He never talked about the crash but I knew he had been in it. He was an extraordinary coach because even being as great a player as he was, he could break down the game for young players. There is a soccer park in Orange Park, Florida, named for him

because of all the great work he did for the club. I miss him.

Rodney Kenney
Hagerty Girls' Soccer Coach, Florida

Editor replies:

Thanks for sharing your story, Rodney. While it's great to hear what the survivors of the Munich

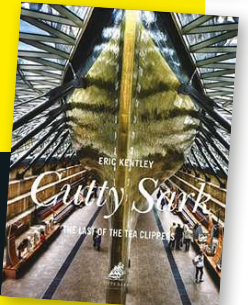


SADLY MISSED
Survivor of the
Munich Air Disaster,
Dennis Viollet

"I was lucky to have Dennis Viollet as a mentor for many years... he never talked about the crash"

Air Disaster went on to achieve, it's hard not to also ponder what might have been had so many great players not died that February afternoon in 1958.

Rodney wins a copy of *Cutty Sark: The Last of The Tea Clippers*, published by Conway in association with Royal Museums Greenwich, worth £20. With stunning imagery, this book reveals the *Cutty Sark's* remarkable story.



ORIGINAL SOURCE

With an interest in Herod the Great of Judea and having visited most of his incredible building projects, I thought last month's article (in Q&A, January 2015) on him was spot on.

I was disappointed, though, to see Matthew's Gospel account of

the 'slaughter of the innocents' almost written off.

The New Testament as a historical document has no proven faults and easily wins the numbers game with other contemporary documents due to the sheer volume of manuscripts (over 5,000) and their closeness in time to the original text. Test it and see!

Jeff Hewitson,
Renfrewshire

Editor replies:

You're quite right, Jeff, that as historical documents go, the New Testament takes some beating. In this particular instance, however, Matthew's Gospel

is the only contemporary account of the infanticide Herod is said to have undertaken in order to ensure the death of the 'King of the Jews'. The question, therefore, isn't so much whether Matthew's Gospel should be dismissed, as whether a single source is enough for historians to rely on. The fact that such a major event doesn't feature in the three other Gospels, nor in any other contemporary Jewish source, is what has called into question the reliability of the account for some experts. If it had indeed happened as Matthew recorded, would we not expect to find some other mention of it? An impossible question, of course, but an interesting one, I hope you agree.

f Being a film fan, especially cowboy films, I was interested in the real facts about the Alamo (Battlefield, March 2015). In the John Wayne film *The Alamo*, I still remember Davy Crockett's final scene when he is speared to a door. It's a scene that I will always remember but now, after reading Julian Humphrys' article, I will dismiss it as the filmmakers' artistic licence. It had a good theme tune though.
Elaine Robinson

BOUDICCA'S PLAN

When Boudicca (History Makers, February 2014) started the rebellion against Rome, did she ever really appreciate the sheer resources of the Roman Empire that would be mobilised against her?

There is one part of the story that seems puzzling. Having started the rebellion with the burning of Colchester, why didn't Boudicca immediately move on to attack the Roman

VILLAIN OF THE STORY

Without more evidence, can we know if King Herod's slaughter ever really happened?

t Train journey wouldn't be complete without reading @HistoryRevMag, enjoying the section about Henry VIII @whittaker_lexii

\$250m
The price paid in 2011 for Paul Cézanne's 'Les Femmes d'Alger' (O. J. Roggenbush collection) is the highest amount ever paid for a painting.

Why were the ninja so feared?
The ninja were a group of mercenaries in medieval Japan who specialised in assassination, spying and sabotage. Ninja were active in the 15th century, and were extinct earlier.

Was King Herod really so bad?
No ancient monarch was ever particularly 'good' and Herod of Judea (reigned 37-4 BC) perhaps has a worse reputation than any other. Of Arab ethnicity, Herod owed his position in Judea to the backing of Rome, who had helped bring him to power. Determined to ape Rome, Herod developed a series of ambitious building projects, including the establishment of Caesarea on the main harbour and the rebuilding of the Second Temple in Jerusalem. His non-Jewish heritage did not sit well with the religious elite of Judea, though, and some political factions saw him as little more than a puppet of Rome. The late years of Herod's reign were marked by illness and paranoia, leading him to murder one of his wives and two of his sons. His chief claim to infamy, however, was the 'Massacre of the Innocents' – the infanticide designed to ensure the death of the prophesied newborn 'King of the Jews' – recorded in the Gospel of Matthew. This horrific event was not mentioned in any of the other gospels, nor by any contemporary Jewish source, and modern historians have cast doubt on whether it actually happened. Overall then, though a despot and tyrant, Herod was no worse than any other ruler of the period. MR

I STILL BELIEVE, IN SPITE OF EVERYTHING, THAT PEOPLE ARE TRULY GOOD AT HEART.
FRANK, 15 JULY 1944
The most poignant lines in arguably the most famous diary history reveals the conflicted emotions of a young girl, persecuted after the Nazi invasion of the Netherlands, in July 1942 Anne's family – along with



Army, which was then campaigning in Wales? Some element of surprise might have brought a degree of success. Instead, the whole force slowly made its way to London.

There is one possible answer though. Excavations by Reading University in the Silchester area suggest that this Roman city was also burned at about the same time as Colchester.

It may well be that Boudicca was to meet allies from some southern counties at London and then the combined forces would move north up Watling Street for a final confrontation with the Roman Army.

It may have been because of this delay that the Roman general Suetonius was warned that he had to deal with a large armed mob rather than an army. Thus, he was able to regroup his forces onto a battlefield of his own choosing with his legions rested, fed and confident of victory over a very large mob.

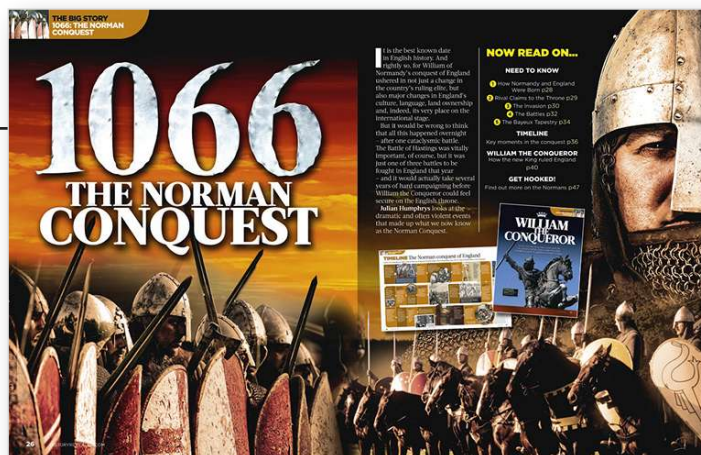
If there were large contingents from the southern counties as well as Norfolk and Suffolk, perhaps the Roman figures of Boudicca's casualties may not be too inaccurate. There is also the possibility that if Boudicca had fought in the battle she may have died of her wounds.

James Wells,
Essex



CELTIC QUEEN
Theories about Boudicca's actions and plans abound

My first purchase on my iPad was a 6-month subscription to @HistoryRevMag! It's an interactive history mag that makes you rethink textbooks.
@42ThinkDeep



BOLD AMBITIONS

Did William of Normandy have any right to the English throne?

Just bought the latest issue and is fantastic as always. Was a bit worried once we had reached a year [since *History Revealed* launched] what would happen to the Time Capsule section and how it would be affected. I need not have worried as it's business as usual, as there is still so much that you can use and thus cover for each month for years to come.
Callum Pirson

A CRACKER OF A READ

A Christmas Carol was not Dickens' first Christmas tale (Q&A, Christmas 2014). You mention *The Pickwick Papers* in the same article; a sizeable chunk of this work describes the Christmas festivities at the home of the Wardle family, in which Pickwickians participate. Dickens conjures up the spirit of Christmas perfectly in a piece of superb writing that I recommend everyone to read. Mr Wardle could well have been the model upon which he based the character of Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol*.

David Austin,
West Yorkshire

WILLIAM THE USURPER?

Edward the Confessor certainly owed a debt of gratitude to William of Normandy while he was in exile, but it would be extremely unlikely that he would promise the throne of England to a man born out of wedlock, as William certainly was (1066: the Norman Conquest, January 2015).

The monarchy in England, even at this early stage, depended on inheritance based

on children of married parents in line to the throne. Usurpers only gained the throne by conquest (Canute, for example). Even the powerful Witan council had to be satisfied that Harold had a legitimate link to the throne, before it would give its blessing to his being crowned as King of all England.

The truth is that William desperately wanted a crown of his own, and the English wealth and stable administration of the country that went with it. That was why he had to rule with a fist of iron for the rest of the reign to suppress any legal claimants to the throne.

Roy Shearing,
Warwickshire

ARE YOU A WINNER?

The lucky winners of the crossword from issue 12 are:

Tim Jenkins, Hampshire

A Allport, Berkshire

V Benjamin, East Sussex

Congratulations! You have each won a copy of **Joan of Arc: a History** by Helen Castor, worth £20.

To test your intellect against this month's puzzle, flip to page 96.

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HOW TO CONTACT US

haveyoursay@historyrevealed.com

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Or post:
Have Your Say, *History Revealed*,
Immediate Media, Tower House,
Fairfax Street, Bristol BS1 3BN

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Bringing the past to life

EDITORIAL

Editor Paul McGuinness
paul.mcguinness@historyrevealed.com
Production Editor Mel Sherwood
mel.sherwood@historyrevealed.com
Staff Writer Jonny Wilkes
jonny.wilkes@historyrevealed.com

ART

Art Editor Sheu-Kuei Ho
Picture Editor Rosie McPherson
Illustrators Dawn Cooper,
Chris Stocker, TIDY Designs

CONTRIBUTORS & EXPERTS

Paul Bloomfield, Rhiannon Furbear-Williams, Adrian Goldsworthy, Jane Gollner, Julian Humphrys, Paul Jarrold, Greg Jenner, Pat Kinsella, Sandra Lawrence, Rupert Matthews, Jonathan Meakin, Jim Parsons, Miles Russell, Ellen Shlasko, Richard Smyth, Tom Symmons, Nige Tassell

PRESS & PR

Communications Manager
Dominic Lobley 0207 150 5015
dominic.lobley@immediate.co.uk

CIRCULATION

Circulation Manager Helen Seymour

ADVERTISING & MARKETING

Senior Advertisement Manager
Steve Grigg steve.grigg@immediate.co.uk

Advertisement Manager
Lucy Moakes 0117 314 7426
lucy.moakes@immediate.co.uk

Deputy Advertisement Manager
Sam Jones 0117 314 8847
sam.jones@immediate.co.uk

Subscriptions Director

Jacky Perales-Morris
Marketing Executive Gemma Burns

PRODUCTION

Production Director Sarah Powell
Production Co-ordinator
Emily Moulder

Ad Co-ordinator Jade O'Halloran
Ad Designer Rachel Shircore

Reprographics Rob Fletcher,
Tony Hunt, Chris Sutcliffe

PUBLISHING

Publisher David Musgrove
Publishing Director Andy Healy
Managing Director Andy Marshall
Chairman Stephen Alexander
Deputy Chairman Peter Phippen
CEO Tom Bureau

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IMMEDIATE MEDIA





TIME CAPSULE

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

PRESS ASSOCIATION IMAGES



SNAPSHOT

1945

TAKING ON THE BIG GUNS

It's April 1945. World War II is in its final days – as the Allies march steadily towards Berlin, the Germans turn towards expensive and cumbersome railroad guns to mount a desperate defence. They're easily captured and make for an impressive souvenir snap, as seen in this photo of soldiers of the Seventh US Army posing with a massive captured 274-mm gun.

This wasn't even the largest gun developed by Hitler. The four-storey Schwerer Gustav had a goliath 30-metre barrel, weighed 1,350 tons and fired shells over tens of miles.



SNAPSHOT

1967 STEP IN TIME

This may look like an alternative scene from *Mary Poppins*, but these Post Office workers in America are hard at work practising the risky business of clambering up telegraph poles. The American inventor of the telegraph Samuel Morse was the first to string the wires up above the ground, having found that burying them caused countless faults and glitches.









SNAPSHOT

1994 THE END OF APARTHEID

Black South Africans wait, in snaking queues like this one in the township of Soweto, for as long as ten hours for their chance to vote in the nation's first ever all-race elections.

Over the course of three days, 20 million people cast their ballot – heralding the crumbling of apartheid and the “beginning of a new South Africa”, as described by one excited voter. The African National Congress wins comfortably and its leader, Nelson Mandela – who was imprisoned 27 years for his opposition to apartheid – becomes South Africa's first-ever black President.



"I READ THE NEWS TODAY..."

Weird and wonderful, it all happened in **April**

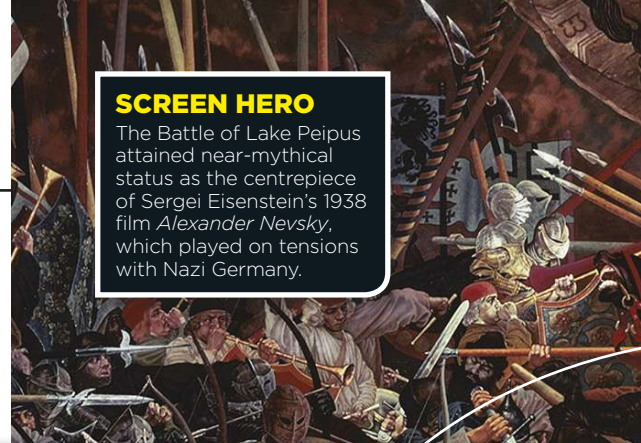
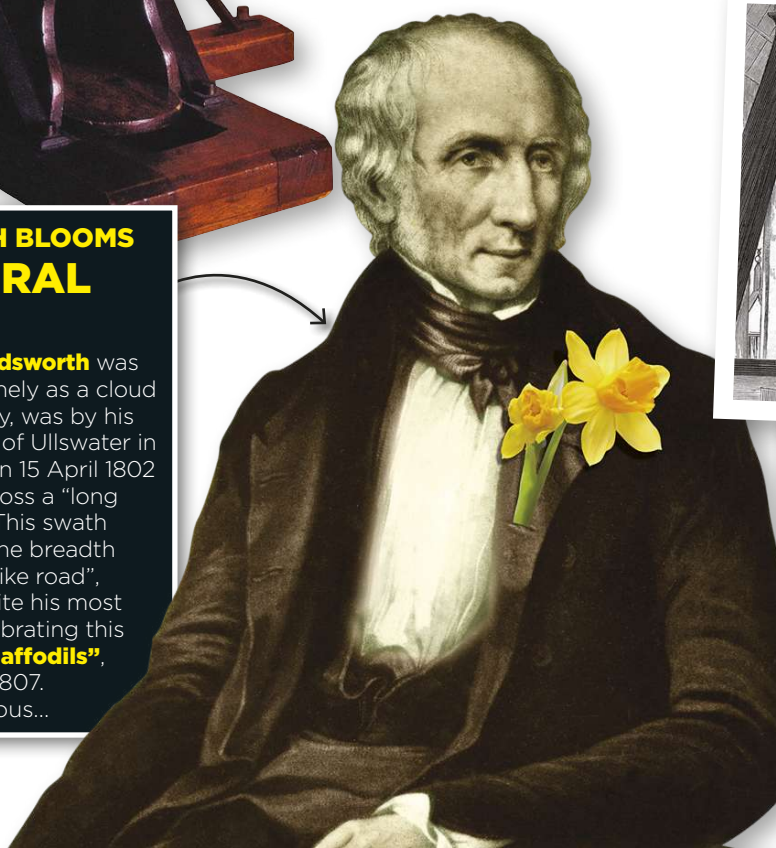


A REVOLUTIONARY WEAPON 1792 BLADES OF GORY

French highwayman Nicolas Jacques Pelletier took his rather unfortunate place in history on 25 April 1792 as the first person to be **executed using the guillotine**. Though beheading devices had been in operation for centuries, the invention of Antoine Louis and Tobias Schmidt was the first to use an angled blade. Their new creation was named for **Joseph-Ignace Guillotin**, who was head of a committee charged with reforming capital punishment – but who was horrified that it took his name. The guillotine was last used in France in 1977, nearly two centuries later.

A BRUSH WITH BLOOMS 1802 FLORAL TRIBUTE

Poet **William Wordsworth** was wandering (not lonely as a cloud – his sister, Dorothy, was by his side) on the shore of Ullswater in the Lake District on 15 April 1802 when he came across a "long belt" of daffodils. This swath of yellow, "about the breadth of a country turnpike road", inspired him to write his most famous poem celebrating this "**host of golden daffodils**", first published in 1807. Blooming marvellous...

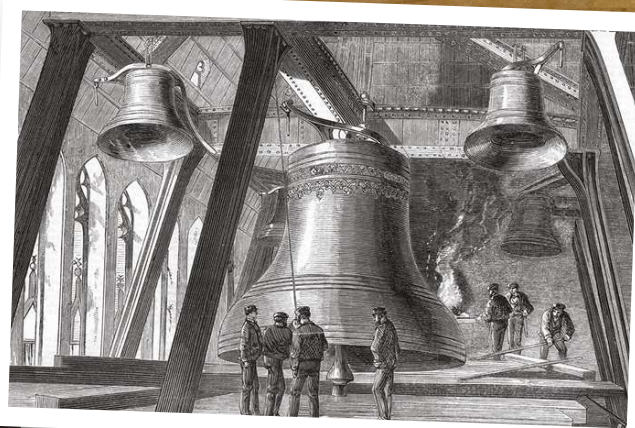
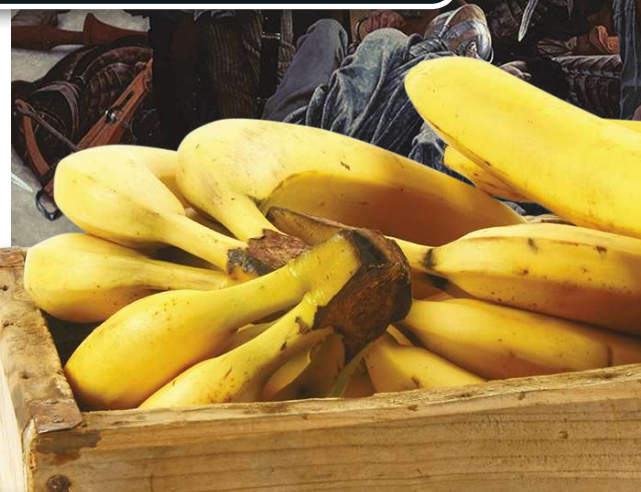


SCREEN HERO

The Battle of Lake Peipus attained near-mythical status as the centrepiece of Sergei Eisenstein's 1938 film **Alexander Nevsky**, which played on tensions with Nazi Germany.

CRUSADERS GET COLD FEET 1242 THE BATTLE ON THE ICE

When an army of 2,000 Teutonic Knights crusading against the Orthodox Christians of the Novgorod Republic gathered at **Lake Peipus** (on the border of modern-day Estonia and Russia) to battle Prince **Alexander Nevsky's** troops on 5 April 1242, they faced a chilly reception. After hours of fighting on the slippery surface of the frozen lake, Nevsky's archers let fly, forcing the knights to retreat. Legend has it that many drowned when the ice cracked beneath the weight of their armour. In any case, the defeated crusaders abandoned their campaign.



HIGH CHIMES 1858 BEN BONGS AGAIN

The mighty bell that sounds the hour from the Elizabeth Tower of the Houses of Parliament was **recast at the Whitechapel Foundry** on 10 April 1858, after the original bell cracked during testing. **'Big Ben'**, weighing 13.76 tonnes, took 30 hours to winch up to the belfry in October, but also cracked within a year. Its nickname may honour Sir Benjamin Hall, then commissioner of works, or heavyweight boxing champion Ben Caunt.



FROM RUSSIA, WITH PEACE 1983 RED LETTER DAY

On 26 April 1983, 10-year-old American schoolgirl Samantha Smith received an unusual invitation. In response to her charmingly naive missive asking how he would ensure world peace, **Soviet premier Yuri Andropov wrote** urging her to visit his country. The letter made her an instant celebrity, and her **July trip to the Soviet Union** created a global media storm.



FOR
SALE

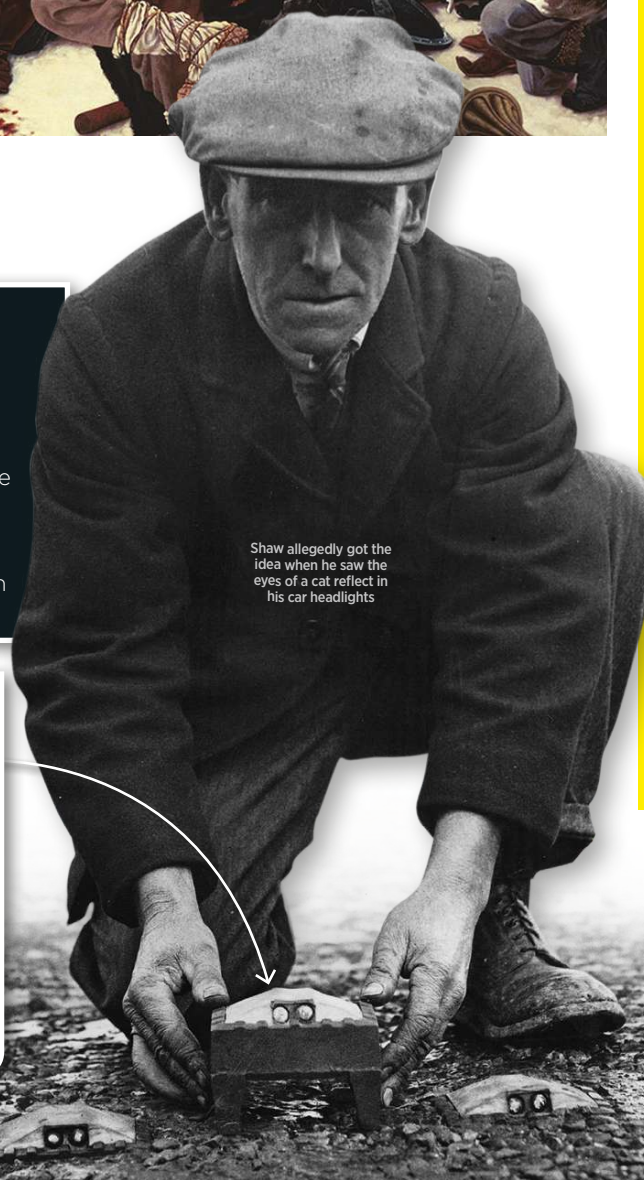
LONDON GOES BANANAS 1633 SKIN TRADE

On 10 April 1633, the enterprising botanist and apothecary Thomas Johnson advertised for sale some strange, yellow fruits – believed to have been the **first bananas sold in Britain**. The bunches displayed in the window of his London shop probably came **from Bermuda** – and would have been very, very ripe from the long voyage.

BRIGHT EYE-DEA 1934 REFLECT ON THIS

On 3 April 1934, Percy Shaw filed patents for his new road-safety invention – the **self-cleaning reflective road stud** he called the Catseye. His creation proved to be a boon during the **blackouts of World War II**. Its use subsequently spread across Britain and, later, the world.

Shaw allegedly got the idea when he saw the eyes of a cat reflect in his car headlights



“...OH BOY”

April events that changed the world

24 APRIL 1184 BC GREEKS SNEAK INTO TROY

Soldiers hidden in a wooden horse emerge to conquer Troy – or so the legend claims.

6 APRIL 1199 LIONHEART ROARS HIS LAST

Crusading King Richard I dies while besieging the castle of Châlus in France.

29 APRIL 1429 WHAT A RELIEF, JOAN

Joan of Arc enters Orléans with supplies, relieving the city after a six-month siege.

23 APRIL 1661 LONG LIVE THE KING

Charles II is crowned King, the first monarch since the Restoration.

19 APRIL 1775 MASS REBELLION

The first battles of the American Revolutionary War are fought at Lexington and Concord, Massachusetts.

13 APRIL 1919 MASSACRE AT AMRITSAR

British troops fire on an unarmed crowd in Punjab, India, killing hundreds.

1 APRIL 1976 PLANTING THE SEED

Steve Jobs and Steve Wozniak launch the Apple I, founding Apple Computers.

AND FINALLY...

The news headlines on 18 April 1930: **“There is no news...”** or so BBC Radio informed listeners. Instead of its usual 6.30pm bulletin, the BBC broadcast ten minutes of piano music.



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5

WEST END FINAL



'The game is not worth even the most alluring candle'



ROY JAMES—30 years



DOUGLAS GOODY—30 years



CHARLES WILSON—30 years



THOMAS WISEBY—30 years



RONALD BIGGS—30 years



ROBERT WELCH—30 years



JAMES HUSSEY—30 years



BRIAN FIELD—25 years



LEONARD FIELD—25 years



WILLIAM BOAL—24 years



ROGER CORDEY—20 years



JOHN WHEATER—Three years

SEVEN GET 30 YEARS EACH

Sentences total 307 years

Evening Standard Reporter: Aylesbury, Thursday

It was the crime of the century . . . the £2,517,975 raid on a mail train in the 3 a.m. darkness of Buckinghamshire. And today came the reckoning: 307 years in jail for 12 of the men involved.

Sentences on all counts totalled 573 years but because they were concurrent the period of imprisonment was cut by 266 years.

It took Mr. Justice Edmund Davies 32 minutes to pass the sentences at Aylesbury.

A WINK . . . A 'THANK YOU'

Seven of the men found guilty of taking part in the raid and conspiracy were each jailed for 30 years. They were Ronald Arthur Biggs, Douglas Gordon Goody, Charles Frederick Wilson, Thomas William Wisbey, Robert Welch, James Hussey and Roy John James.

The other sentences ranged from 25 to three years. The 12 men heard their sentences calmly. Biggs, a slight smile on his face, winked at his wife as he left the dock. Wisbey drummed his fingers on the dock rail but gave no sign of emotion. Wilson paled . . . and said nothing.

Welch worked his mouth as if he was chewing gum. Then he bowed low. From Hussey came an almost inaudible "Thank you, Your Honour." James held his hands clasped behind his back.

Goody, grim-faced, gave a toss of his head and clenched his fists as he was led away.

'OH, MY POOR BOY'

The only outburst came when Leonard Field, 31, was sentenced to 25 years for conspiracy. His 73-year-old mother, a grey-haired tiny figure in a black velvet coat with fur collar screamed: "Oh, my poor boy . . ."

As she was led out Field called out: "Never mind, mother. I am still young."

Mr. Justice Edmund Davies told the court that to deal with the charges leniently would be an evil thing. Saying that the crime was the first of its kind in the

● Back Page, Col. Three



This conduct constitutes a menace to society . . . It is nothing less than a sordid crime of violence inspired by vast greed . . . The consequence of this outrageous crime is that the vast booty of £2,500,000 remains almost entirely unrecovered.

It would be an affront if you were to be at liberty in the near future to enjoy these ill-gotten gains. I propose to secure that such an opportunity will be denied to you for an extremely long time.

MR. JUSTICE EDMUND DAVIES, THE JUDGE AT THE MAIL ROBBERY TRIAL TODAY.

Royal wedding in September

COPENHAGEN, Thursday.—King Constantine of Greece and Princess Anne-Marie of Denmark will marry in Athens on September 18, the Danish court announced today.

the GREAT TRAIN ROBBERY

'Ferranti company beat Whitehall'

The MPs' "watchdog" committee on public accounts reported today on the Ferranti contract. The committee find that: THE COMPANY was able to beat Whitehall's technical costs estimate by "an enormous margin"; and THE MINISTRY—"one of the . . ."

PASSING JUDGEMENT

When passing down sentences, seven of which were longer than for murderers, Judge Edmund Davies announced that to show leniency would be "positively evil". The harsh convictions were met by public outburst.

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WEATHER—Warm.—See Page 17.

YESTERDAY'S PAPERS

On **16 April 1964**, the hefty sentences of the Great Train Robbers hit the papers

“TO DEAL WITH THIS CASE LENIENTLY WOULD BE A POSITIVELY EVIL THING”

For six months, Britain had been enthralled by what the papers described as the ‘crime of the century’. To some, the Great Train Robbery was a romantic caper of derring-do, reminiscent of Robin Hood or highwaymen, but the judge at the trials of a dozen of its perpetrators stressed it was nothing more than a thuggish, greedy act.

At 3am on 8 August 1963, 15 London crooks, led by career criminal Bruce Reynolds, held up the *Up-Special*, a Royal Mail train making its way to London with sacks of cash. The gang stopped the train by hot-wiring the signals, as well as cutting off communication lines.

The driver, 58-year-old Jack Mills, was bludgeoned with a cosh and, despite suffering a severe head injury, was made to shunt the train down the tracks to where getaway cars were waiting. In just 20 minutes, around 120 bags filled with used bank notes were loaded and driven to the hide-out at Leatherslade Farm. There, the gang divided the loot – just under £2.6 million (around £40 million today) and played Monopoly with real money until the heat blew over.

That didn’t happen as Scotland Yard’s top man, Tommy Butler, was on the case. He was known as ‘One Day Tommy’ for the speed with which he caught criminals. It took five days to find the farm, although little of the untraceable money was recovered. Soon, 12 of the robbers had been arrested. On 15 April, jail terms totalling 307 years were handed out – a swift response to an audacious crime. ☉

FIRE NON-STARTER

Arrests were made after the gang’s hide-out was discovered. Fingerprints were found by police all over the farm as the man hired to destroy the evidence **failed to torch the place**.



TWO-FACED RONNIE

Minor player Ronnie Biggs rose to notoriety when he escaped Wandsworth Prison in 1965, before having **plastic surgery** and fleeing the country. In 2001, he returned to Britain and was rearrested.

THE GREAT TRAIN ROBBERS

ABOVE: Three of the gang leave court with blankets over their heads
RIGHT: Ronnie Biggs, before he escaped prison and fled the country



1964 ALSO IN THE NEWS...

13 APRIL For the first time, the Best Actor Oscar is won by a black actor, as **Sidney Poitier picks up the top award** for his performance as a construction worker in *Lilies of the Field*.

13 APRIL A New Zealand farmer sets the world record for sheep shearing. Colin Boshier shears his way to the record by getting through **565 sheep in eight hours** – that’s a little over a minute per sheep.

17 APRIL The **Ford Mustang** is unveiled at the World’s Fair in New York. Instantly popular, more than 400,000 of the two-seater sports car are sold in the first year of production.



GRAPHIC HISTORY

Britain's PMs in facts and figures

1721 THE GAME OF (A PM'S) LIFE

Since Sir Robert Walpole became First Lord of the Treasury (the first 'Prime Minister') in April 1721, 52 others have been handed the keys to Number 10. But who were these people to whom power was passed?



UNIVERSITY

UNI DAYS

Oxford (26)

40 of the 53 PMs went to Cambridge or Oxford

Cambridge (14)

7 The number of PMs without a degree.

49%

OLD BOYS

The proportion of Britain's PMs who, as children, attended either Eton or Harrow independent schools.

THE REAL WORLD

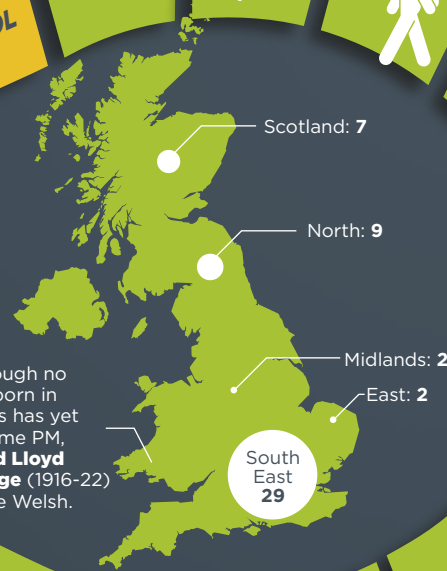
4 The number of World War I veterans who became PM - **Winston Churchill** (1940-45, 1951-55), **Clement Attlee** (1945-1951), **Anthony Eden** (1955-57) and **Harold Macmillan** (1957-1963).

SCHOOL LIFE

LOCATION LOCATION LOCATION*

Just under a third of all PMs were born in London.

Although no one born in Wales has yet become PM, **David Lloyd George** (1916-22) spoke Welsh.



GENTLEMEN'S CLUB

There have been 52 male PMs, but only one female.

INFANCY

START HERE

Born into the middle or lower classes (20)

SOCIAL BACKGROUND

Born into the upper classes (33)

3

The number of PMs born overseas: **William Petty** (1782-83) and the **Duke of Wellington** (1828-30, 1834) were both Irish-born, and **Andrew Bonar Law's** (1922-23) birthplace was New Brunswick, now in Canada.

*If readers have any knowledge as to the birthplace of PM **Augustus Henry Fitzroy** (1768-1770) then please do get in touch - his origins are something of a mystery...

53 The average age of PMs when they first reached Number 10.

24 YEARS AND 6 MONTHS

The age of the youngest PM on entering office – **William Pitt the Younger** (1783-1801, 1804-06).

In 1965, **Harold Wilson's** (1964-70, 1974-76) annual salary as PM was **£14,000**

Today, **David Cameron** is paid **£142,500**

NURSERY TIME

Leo Blair, the youngest son of Tony (1997-2007) who was born in May 2000, was the first legitimate child born to a serving PM for more than 150 years.



REAL LOSER

The heaviest defeat for an incumbent PM in a general election was in 1945 when, just two months after VE Day, **Winston Churchill's** (1940-45, 1951-55) Conservatives lost **190 seats** in the House of Commons to **Clement Attlee's** (1945-1951) Labour Party.



VOTE

2 YEARS AND 11 MONTHS

The shortest period between becoming an MP and PM, achieved by **William Pitt the Younger** (1783-1801, 1804-06).



COUPLED UP

Only four PMs ever married – **Spencer Compton** (1742-43), **William Pitt the Younger** (1783-1801, 1804-06), **Arthur Balfour** (1902-05) and **Edward Heath** (1970-74). A further five were widowers.



20

The length, in years, of the longest-running PM's stretch. **Sir Robert Walpole** served for a continuous **20 years and 314 days** between 1721 and 1742.



No
17

BIG DADDY

The PM thought to have the most children was **Charles Grey** (1830-34), who fathered 17 little ones.

GOLDEN YEARS

RISKY BUSINESS

The only PM to have been assassinated was **Spencer Perceval** (1809-12). He was shot in the chest by aggrieved businessman John Bellingham.



7

The number of PMs who died while in office: **Spencer Compton**, 1743; **Henry Pelham**, 1754; **Charles Watson-Wentworth**, 1782; **William Pitt The Younger**, 1806; **Spencer Perceval**, 1812 (see left); **George Canning**, 1827; **Henry John Temple**, 1865.

17 DAYS

The length of the shortest post-PM retirement, which belonged to **Henry Campbell-Bannerman** (1905-08). The longest retirement was enjoyed by **Augustus Henry Fitzroy** (1768-1770), who lived for **41 years** after his stint at Number 10.



FINISH

XX



WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

A student faced discrimination and violence for entering a marathon, but brought down hurdles in women's racing

1967 A NEAR FALSE START FOR WOMAN MARATHON RUNNER

Kathrine Switzer had officially signed up for the Boston Marathon in 1967 – but that didn't stop an irate race director, determined to keep women out of the run...

When 19-year-old journalism student Kathrine Switzer filled in her registration form for the 1967 Boston Marathon, she put her name as 'KV Switzer'.

It wasn't a ploy to hide her gender and bamboozle race officials, she always signed her name that way, but Switzer knew marathon running was a male-only pursuit. There were many who believed that women were physiologically incapable of long-distance running and, in its 70-year history, no woman had officially competed at Boston. Switzer wasn't looking to make a statement, but one man's actions would see her run take on a new, symbolic meaning.

UNOFFICIAL REVIEW

The day was cold, blustery and grey, yet it began well for Switzer, with the number 261 proudly pinned to her sweater. She was prepared, had a good team – her coach, her boyfriend and one of her university's cross-country team – and she was greeted with smiles and encouragement by many runners at the start line.

Then around two miles into the 26-mile course, a man wearing a Boston Athletic Association lapel appeared and grabbed Switzer by

the arm, pulling off her glove as she ran past. Seconds later, the stranger, identified by Switzer's coach Arnie Briggs as race director Jock Semple, renewed his attack. "Get the hell out of my race and give me those numbers!" he screamed at Switzer while tearing at her top, almost tripping her over. Semple stopped only when Switzer's boyfriend (an ex-All American football star) barged him to the ground.

TAKING STEPS

Upset and frightened, Switzer kept running, vowing to Briggs, "I have to finish this race, even on my hands and knees. If I don't, people will say women can't do it." Powered on by her new determination, she reached the end after four hours, 20 minutes – although Semple made sure she was disqualified.

The whole incident had been observed by the press and when the shocking images hit the papers, they sparked an outcry. Switzer's ordeal went some of the way in bringing about gradual changes in women's running. From 1972, women could run at Boston, but it wasn't until the 1984 games in Los Angeles that the women's marathon finally commenced at the Olympics. 📌

FORERUNNERS

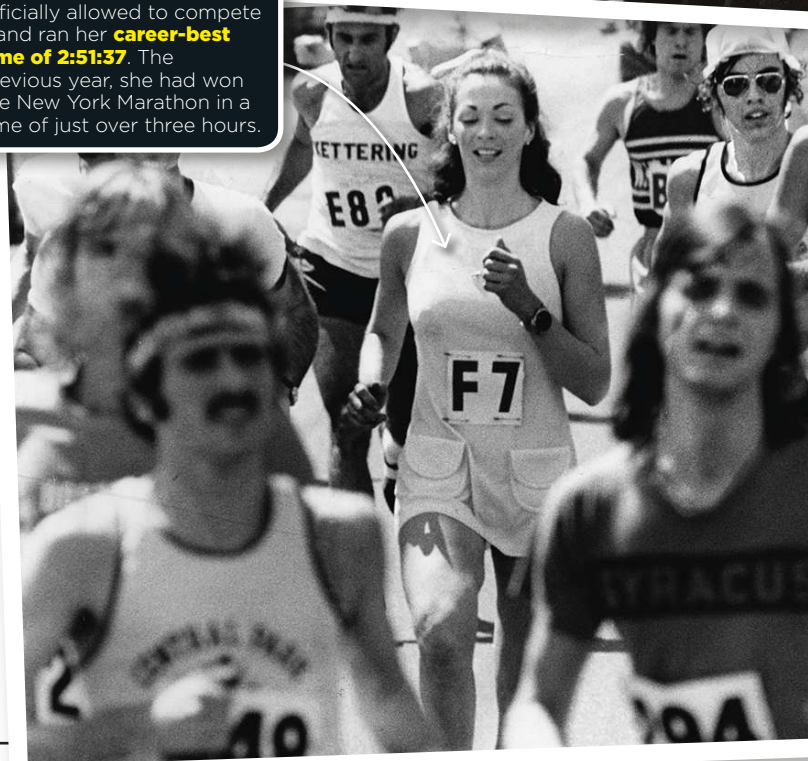
RIGHT: **Bobbi Gibb** was first to run, unsanctioned, the Boston Marathon
BELOW: **Kathrine Switzer** in 1974, the year she won the New York Marathon

PERSONAL BESTS

In 1975, Kathrine Switzer returned to Boston – three years after women were officially allowed to compete – and ran her **career-best time of 2:51:37**. The previous year, she had won the New York Marathon in a time of just over three hours.

PIPPED TO THE POST

The photos of Kathrine Switzer captured the headlines, but another woman – **Roberta 'Bobbi' Gibb** – also ran in 1967, and she finished an hour quicker. Gibb had run the previous year too, having hid in the bushes near the start line.



TACKLING THE SEMPLE PROBLEMS

When Kathrine Switzer was confronted by Jock Semple, her football-player boyfriend, 'Big' Tom Miller, lunged and hit Semple with a **heavy body block**, sending him crashing to the roadside.

"GET THE HELL OUT OF MY RACE"

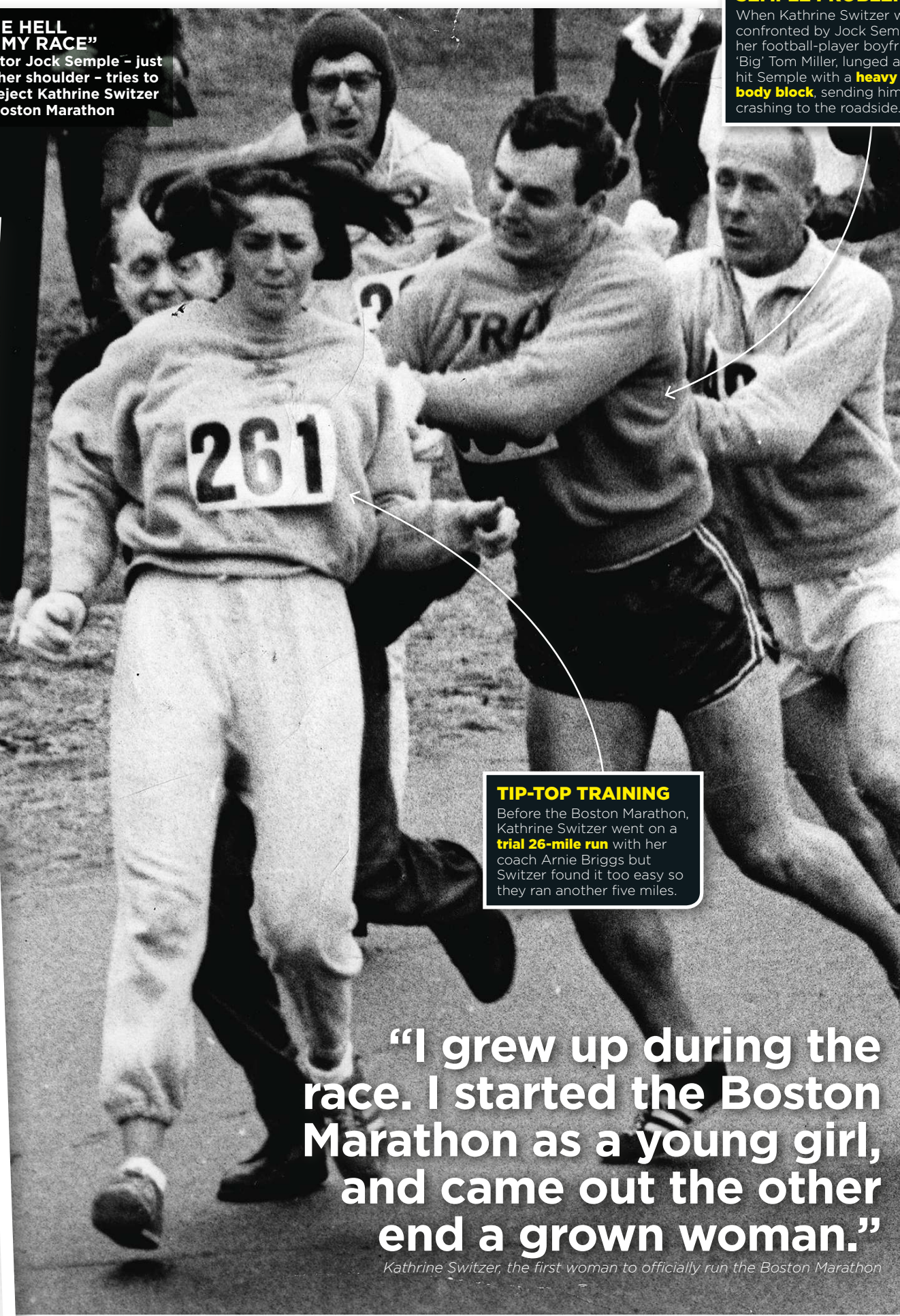
Race director Jock Semple - just seen over her shoulder - tries to forcefully eject Kathrine Switzer from the Boston Marathon

TIP-TOP TRAINING

Before the Boston Marathon, Kathrine Switzer went on a **trial 26-mile run** with her coach Arnie Briggs but Switzer found it too easy so they ran another five miles.

"I grew up during the race. I started the Boston Marathon as a young girl, and came out the other end a grown woman."

Kathrine Switzer, the first woman to officially run the Boston Marathon





THE EXTRAORDINARY TALE OF...

Highwayman, horse thief and murderer **Dick Turpin**

1739 LEGENDARY HIGHWAYMAN DICK TURPIN HANGED

On 7 April 1739, Dick Turpin's life was snuffed out at the end of the rope – but his legend was only beginning...

Think of a highwayman and the image conjured is of a dashing, even noble, criminal who robs the rich, saves damsels in distress and escapes the clutches of evil noblemen. The image is a wildly romanticised fallacy but continues to transform brutish killers into 'gentlemen of the road'. This has never been seen better than with the reputation of the 18th-century Dick Turpin, who, we are told, rode a jet-black horse, Black Bess, and made a legendary ride from London to York, covering some 200 miles, in a single day.

Yet little of Turpin's story is true. Black Bess didn't exist, he didn't make the fabled ride (a 17th-century highwayman, John 'Swift Nick' Nevison, did) and he certainly wasn't a daring, lovable rogue. He owes his heroic status to William Harrison Ainsworth's novel *Rookwood* (1834). The real man was a gruff, scowling murderer with a squalid past.

HOME INVASIONS

Richard 'Dick' Turpin, from the rural Essex village of Hempstead,

turned to crime with ease. As a butcher in the 1730s, he began stealing sheep and cattle, bringing him to the attention of the notorious deer-poaching Essex (or Gregory) Gang. As his association with them increased, Turpin got involved with their signature crime of raiding homes.

The most famous attack took place on 1 February 1735. In Loughton, the home of the elderly Widow Shelley was invaded by five gang members armed with pistols, one of whom might have been Turpin, who threatened to hold her backside over a fire to make her confess where she hid her money. The attackers made off with £100 and some silver after helping themselves to ale, wine and meat from the pantry. In another raid, Turpin and the gang beat a 70-year-old man with the

butt of a pistol, poured a kettle of water over his head and reputedly abused his servants – all for £30.

STAND AND DELIVER

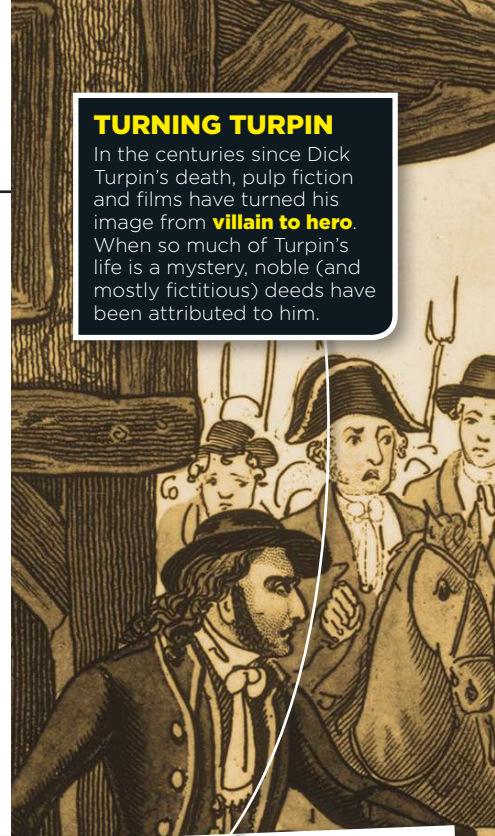
When the law caught up with the Essex Gang, many of them were executed but Turpin got away and turned to a new line of work – highway robbery. From a cave in Epping Forest, near London, he and another man, Thomas Rowden, held up people as they walked by. The takes weren't huge, just a few guineas on occasion, but a bounty of £100 was put on their heads. Turpin had a taste for the life of a highwayman – he

went on to team up with well-known criminal Tom King and committed a string of robberies. Much has been made of this partnership but, in truth, the two weren't partners for long as, in early 1737, King was mortally wounded in an altercation over a stolen horse. Some accounts claim it was Turpin who fired the fatal shot, by accident.

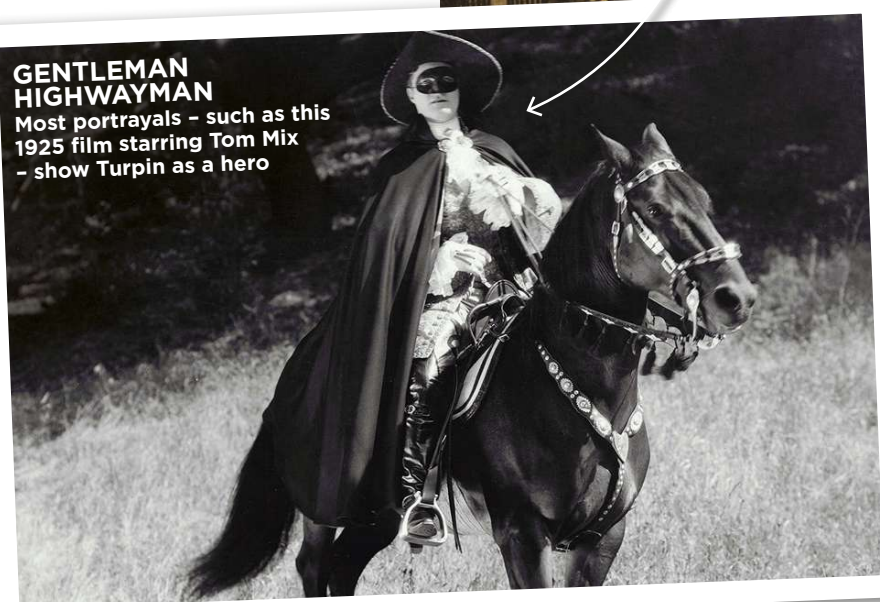
Turpin was now alone. Most of his friends and accomplices were either dead or in prison. Even his wife spent time in jail. In February 1737, he had written a letter to her arranging to meet up, but the authorities had intercepted the letter and

TURNING TURPIN

In the centuries since Dick Turpin's death, pulp fiction and films have turned his image from **villain to hero**. When so much of Turpin's life is a mystery, noble (and mostly fictitious) deeds have been attributed to him.

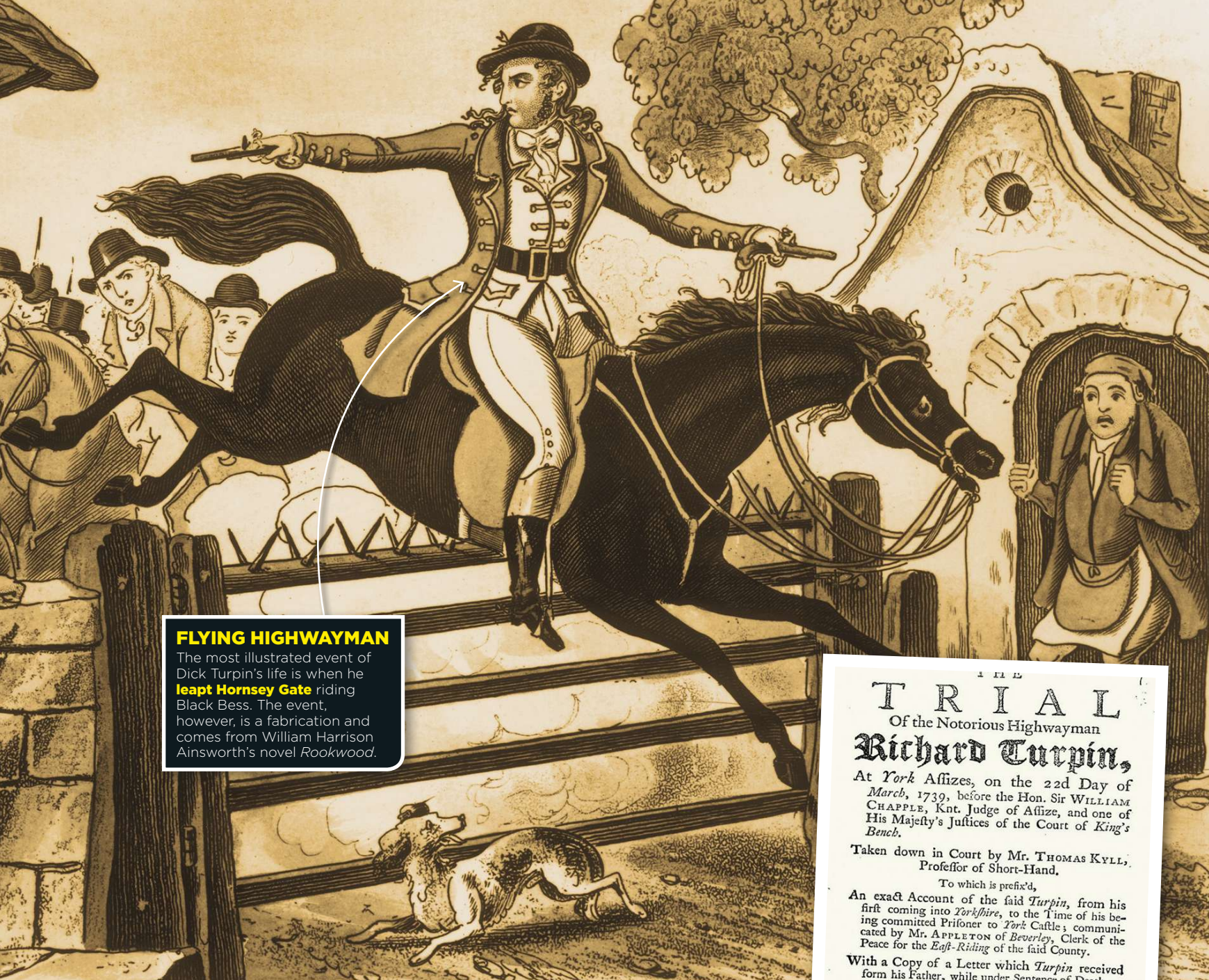


**GENTLEMAN
HIGHWAYMAN**
Most portrayals – such as this 1925 film starring Tom Mix – show Turpin as a hero



“Rash daring was the main feature of Turpin's character... he knew fear only by name.”

A description of Dick Turpin in William Harrison Ainsworth's Rookwood, published in 1834



FLYING HIGHWAYMAN

The most illustrated event of Dick Turpin's life is when he **leapt Hornsey Gate** riding Black Bess. The event, however, is a fabrication and comes from William Harrison Ainsworth's novel *Rookwood*.

prepared an ambush. Turpin found out about the trap and so scarpered, without warning his wife. She was left to be arrested and imprisoned.

LETTER OF THE LAW

Following King's death, Turpin fled back to Epping Forest. It was there that, on 4 May, he was spotted living rough by a servant named Thomas Morris, who made a foolhardy attempt to apprehend him. Armed with a carbine, Turpin shot and killed Morris.

Changing his name to John Palmer, Turpin absconded to Yorkshire to evade capture – not in a single ride, but on the ferry. His attempts to lay low were futile

as he was eventually arrested on 2 October 1738 for shooting a man's rooster. In custody, it was revealed that he had stolen a number of horses in Yorkshire.

His true identity remained unknown and it took an act of bizarre coincidence to finally seal Turpin's fate. From his cell, he wrote to his brother-in-law seeking help. But as the letter sat in the Post Office, Turpin's handwriting was recognised by a man who worked there. It turned out the man had taught Turpin how to write at school.

Now arrested as Turpin, not Palmer, he was sentenced to death in York. Remaining guilt-free and sanguine to the last,

LIFE OR LEGEND

ABOVE: Dick Turpin's fictitious leap over Hornsey Gate
RIGHT: A reasonably reliable pamphlet describing Turpin's trial written by Thomas Kyll

Turpin spent his last days in jovial mood, entertaining visitors in his cell and buying a new frock coat and shoes for his execution.

On the day, 7 April, he was still in fine form. He paid five mourners to follow his procession through York's streets to the gallows at Knavesmire. Witnesses remarked on how he "behaved himself with amazing assurance" and bowed to the crowds. After a

TRIAL Of the Notorious Highwayman **Richard Turpin,**

At York Assizes, on the 22d Day of March, 1739, before the Hon. Sir WILLIAM CHAPPLE, Knt. Judge of Assize, and one of His Majesty's Justices of the Court of King's Bench.

Taken down in Court by Mr. THOMAS KYLL, Professor of Short-Hand.

To which is prefix'd,

An exact Account of the said Turpin, from his first coming into Yorkshire, to the Time of his being committed Prisoner to York Castle; communicated by Mr. APPLETON of Beverley, Clerk of the Peace for the East-Riding of the said County.

With a Copy of a Letter which Turpin received from his Father, while under Sentence of Death.

To which is added,

His Behaviour at the Place of Execution, on Saturday the 7th of April, 1739. Together with the whole Confession he made to the Hangman at the Gallows; wherein he acknowledg'd himself guilty of the Facts for which he suffer'd, own'd the Murder of Mr. Thompson's Servant on Epping-Forest, and gave a particular Account of several Robberies which he had committed.

THE SECOND EDITION.

Y O R K :

Printed by WARD and CHANDLER Bookfellers, at their Printing-Office in Cony-Street; and Sold at their Shop without Temple-Bar, London; 1739. (Price Sixpence.)

few words with his executioner, a calm and unrepentant Turpin was hanged. Despite a violent life of crime, people were fascinated with Turpin's sordid tale, and his reputation and legend grew. ○

WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Should we reassess Dick Turpin's image to fit more with historical fact?

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

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HISTORY
REVEALED



THE BIG STORY WATERLOO, 1815



THE EMPEROR'S FALL

Napoleon – ambitious, ruthless and adored by his country – met his match at the Battle of Waterloo

BICENTENNIAL 1815 – 2015

WATERLOO

Napoleon, Wellington and the events that changed the world: the definitive story

WHAT'S THE STORY?

Two centuries ago, on 18 June 1815, three armies met near Brussels in a battle that would decide the fate of Europe for generations.

The Emperor Napoleon, defeated and exiled just a year earlier, had returned to France, conjured up a great army in a matter of weeks, and was ready to defy the rest of the world once more. Ranged against him was a coalition of Europe's other great powers, but none were fully prepared for

war. All that stood in Napoleon's path were hastily gathered armies under the Duke of Wellington and the Prussian Field Marshal Blücher. Throughout one long summer day, tens of thousands of men died or were maimed as Napoleon tried to keep his dream of glory and empire alive.

But how did Europe end up so divided? And how did a boy from Corsica become one of the most powerful and feared men on the continent? **Adrian Goldsworthy** reveals all.



ADRIAN GOLDSWORTHY

A British historian and author, Adrian writes non-fiction about Ancient Rome and a series of Napoleonic novels. The sixth story, *Whose Business is to Die*, is released in June 2015. Adrian also regularly appears in television and radio documentaries.

NOW READ ON...

NEED TO KNOW

- 1 Glory Days [p28](#)
- 2 Conflicted Continent [p30](#)
- 3 The Napoleonic Wars [p32](#)
- 4 The Three Generals [p34](#)
- 5 End of an Era [p35](#)

TIMELINE

Napoleon's meteoric rises and falls [p36](#)

NAPOLEON'S COMEBACK

Out of exile and back into battle [p38](#)

THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO

A close look at Napoleon's last campaign [p44](#)

GET HOOKED

Love Waterloo? There's plenty more to discover [p49](#)



GLORY DAYS

Post-Revolutionary France was hell-bent on European domination, and Napoleon looked the most likely man to deliver it

On a cold, wet January morning in 1793, King Louis XVI was guillotined in Paris by the Revolutionary government. The move horrified all the other crowned heads of Europe. The great continental states of Austria, Prussia, Russia, France and Great Britain were old rivals, forever jockeying for power, but this changed the rules of the game.

France was eager to spread the ideals of revolution, and there seemed no reason why the same chaos and bloodshed should not spring up in other countries. Europe turned on France to crush this threat, making the French more aggressive in turn as they felt that their backs were against the wall. The passion of *La Marseillaise*, the French national anthem, gives us a sense of the times in its rousing call for citizens to rally in defence of the homeland.

Under the Revolution, all the old certainties had gone. In little more than a year, the young Napoleon Bonaparte rose through the ranks

from captain to general. A man had to be a politician as much as a soldier in these years, as a long succession of different factions took over the government, killed their rivals, and were in turn overthrown. In 1795, Napoleon turned his cannon on a protesting mob in Paris and won the gratitude of the current regime, who sent him to command an army in Italy. In the following years, he won victory after victory, and made sure that he publicised every achievement. He led an expedition to Egypt, taking along scholars as well as soldiers. Even when his fleet was shattered by Nelson, and Napoleon abandoned his army to return to France, it did little to dent his growing legend.

Napoleon was one of the leaders of yet another coup, and became one of three supreme consuls appointed to share power. Soon he was First Consul and then, not long after, First Consul for Life. In 1804, he became Emperor - placing the crown on his own head in a grand coronation. His right to rule was based on the glory of his victories. To the rest of the Europe, he was a jumped-up upstart, and a threat.

7
The number of prisoners being held at the Bastille when it was stormed by a Revolutionary mob in 1789

LONG LEGACY

The Council of State, or the *Conseil d'État*, remains the highest court in France to this day. Though it had its **origins in the 12th century**, it was Napoleon's reorganisation in 1799, that gave it power after the Revolution.

JAILBREAK

The storming of the Bastille, a state prison in east Paris, on 14 July 1789, marks the start of the French Revolution



Le Petit Journal

Le Petit Journal
Supplément illustré
Huit pages - CINQ centimes
DIMANCHE 7 SEPTEMBRE 1902



Installation du Conseil d'État par le Premier consul (An VIII)

A BORN LEADER


INTRODUCING NAPOLEON

Born Napoleone Buonaparte in Corsica, 1769, for a while he followed the family tradition of supporting his island's independence from France. However, the Buonapartes moved to France and he entered the French army as an officer in the artillery. Changing his name to the French-style 'Napoleon Bonaparte', he welcomed the Revolution, won fame commanding the guns at the Siege of Toulon, and rose speedily to high command. Having called upon

mass conscription for the first time in Europe, France had huge armies, but lacked leaders, especially since nearly all the senior officers of the old Royal army had either been executed or exiled. Napoleon was a genius, rapid in his manoeuvres and ruthless in exploiting enemy weakness. He carefully cultivated the loyalty and enthusiasm of his soldiers. His victories, and the support of the army, allowed his political rise. It also meant his success depended on a continuous supply of fresh victories. Combined with the fear and hatred he inspired abroad, this meant that there was little chance of a lasting peace.

POWER PLAY

Napoleon moves toward becoming Emperor, installing the Council of State in 1799



“FRANCE AND BRITAIN WERE OLD RIVALS, BUT THE REVOLUTION CHANGED THE RULES OF THE GAME”

OFF WITH HIS HEAD
King Louis XVI's head is
shown to the crowd at the
guillotine in January 1793

THE LAST SUPPER

The night before his death, Louis XVI was brought a dinner of soft foods, as he was not allowed a knife. As he tucked in to his **mushy meal**, the King remarked: “Do they think me so wicked that I would try to take my life?”

TREATY OF AMIENS
Peace is announced in
London in 1802, though it
will be a short-lived truce

THE VIEW FROM DOVER BRITAIN LOOKS ON

Britain and France were old enemies – just a generation before, it was a French fleet and a French army that had made possible George Washington's victory at Yorktown and led to the independence of the American colonies. When the Revolution erupted in France, a few Britons welcomed it for its apparently liberal ideas, but as it became ever more bloody and unstable, attitudes changed. From the very start, the establishment hated and feared what the Revolution represented, and had nightmares of mobs marauding through London. War followed, Britain allying with – and paying –

any country willing to fight against France. The Peace of Amiens in 1802-1803 was the only short interruption to this intense conflict.

Napoleon's ascent eventually brought internal stability to France and reined in the more violent excesses of the Revolution, but in many ways simply meant that the French war effort was

better organised and its strategy more focused. His forces were strong on land, and the British dominated the seas. Napoleon saw Britain and its deep, war-funding pockets as the biggest hurdle to his domination of Europe. The British were keen to prevent any power, let alone the French, from controlling all of the continent.



2

CONFLICTED CONTINENT

As a whirlwind of innovation swept through Europe, the countries who could adapt quickest, thrived

Europe was changing in the later 18th century, as new inventions and methods of production inaugurated the Industrial Revolution. But the pace of this innovation varied from country to country. In some, the old structures of monarchy and a land-owning elite struggled to keep pace in this ever-changing world.

Russia and Spain were backward, with only a very small educated population. Germany was not yet united, and Prussia was simply the biggest of many independent kingdoms. It would be some time before it became an

industrial powerhouse. The Austrian Empire consisted of many distinct ethnic groups and was inefficiently run. In France, social and economic developments helped usher in violent political change.

Britain adapted and remained stable, although the process was not straightforward. There was growing pressure for political change from prosperous factory owners and from the craftsmen who were made redundant as machinery played an ever-bigger role in production. The Royal Navy, on the whole, kept the isles secure from invasion – however there

were brief French landings in Ireland and at Fishguard in Wales in the 1790s – but was immensely expensive.

All of the countries were still more inclined to think of competition in military rather than commercial terms. Revolutionary and then Napoleonic France intensified this rivalry and a succession of coalitions were formed to oppose the French, though they proved ineffective. It was hard for the rivals to work together. Russia, Prussia and

Austria did not want to see any victory over France that gave too much power to one of the others, and all of them mistrusted Britain, which spent money but little of its own blood in the struggle.

Over time Napoleon gained more and more ground, stripping territories, allies, and resources from the defeated. All of the other powers except for Britain began to wonder whether it was best to accept his dominance and try to make a favourable deal with France.

12

The years of service required for a soldier to join the Infantry of Napoleon's Old Guard

“THE OLD STRUCTURES STRUGGLED TO KEEP PACE IN THIS EVER-CHANGING WORLD”

TOP TRUMPS EMPIRES AT WAR

Which of the European powers could stand up to Napoleon and his *Grande Armée* (Great Army)? Each nation has its strengths and weaknesses, an empire to protect, and long-held grudges against its neighbours. But the only thing they feared more than each other was Napoleon and his thirst for glory.

NUMBERS GAME

In June 1807, 65,000 of **Napoleon's troops** took Friedland (now Pravdinsk, Russia) from 58,000 Russians after just a few hours of battle. The French lost 9,000 men – the Russians, 19,000.

FRANCE



Napoleon's 4th Hussars are part of a huge force



LEADER
EMPEROR NAPOLEON

ARMY
The largest and most powerful in the world.

NAVY
Substantial, but blockaded by the stronger British Royal Navy.

WEALTH
The economy is reliant on continued victory, and drained by long war and a British blockade.

STRENGTHS
Napoleon's military genius and his veteran army.

WEAKNESSES
Dwindling manpower and resources, and growing unpopularity of war among civilian population.

AUSTRIA

The cavalry of Austria's middling army



LEADER
EMPEROR FRANCIS II

ARMY
Moderately large.

NAVY
Negligible

WEALTH
The economy has been bled by prolonged and mainly unsuccessful wars with France.

STRENGTHS
Its army and its central position.

WEAKNESSES
Fear of Prussia or Russia dominating if France is defeated.

LAUNCH BASE

Napoleon had big ideas for Boulogne. The fortified seaport was where he assembled his army, and from where he planned to launch an **invasion of Britain**. His plans, though, ceased after the Battle of Trafalgar (see page 32).



SUPPLY LINES

The Battle of the Glorious First of June saw 34 British ships take on a fleet of 26-30 French vessels, which was accompanying a **grain convoy** from America to France. The British won, but the supply ships successfully made it to port, so the French task was met.



EUROPE AT WAR
MAIN: Napoleon visits the arsenal at Boulogne
RIGHT: The Battle of the Glorious First of June, the first great naval fight of the war between Britain and France

PRUSSIA



Prussia's soldiers were war-weary



LEADER
KING FREDERICK WILHELM III

ARMY

A good sized force, but still recovering from its drubbing by the French in 1806.

NAVY

None

WEALTH

Economy badly weakened by French occupation and the cost of the war.

STRENGTHS

Good generals, and patriotic enthusiasm.

WEAKNESSES

Many inexperienced soldiers.

RUSSIA

Vast Russian troops gather in St Petersburg



LEADER
TSAR ALEXANDER II

ARMY

A good sized and effective force.

NAVY

Relatively small

WEALTH

Modest, with a backward economy and poorly educated serf population.

STRENGTHS

Its determined soldiers and the sheer size of its homeland.

WEAKNESSES

It is difficult to supply armies outside Russia itself.

BRITAIN



The British infantrymen are highly trained



LEADER
KING GEORGE III (but in practical terms, a series of Prime Ministers)

ARMY

Good quality professional army, but small in size.

NAVY

The largest and most powerful in the world.

WEALTH

The Industrial Revolution has made Britain a great economic power.

STRENGTHS

Its wealth and its mighty navy.

WEAKNESSES

It does not possess enough soldiers to challenge the French on the continent and so relies on its allies.



3

THE NAPOLEONIC WARS

*At the turn of the 19th century,
France meant to take on the world*

The Napoleonic Wars is the general name given to a wider struggle made up of many separate conflicts. France and its Emperor were at the heart of it all, and rivalry with Britain extended the campaigns to Africa, India, the West Indies and the Americas. Alliances were made and broken, and fortunes rose and fell, but Britain and France were never on the same side.

Stopped by the Royal Navy from invading Britain, Napoleon strove to win the war on land, beating all of the European powers in turn and introducing the 'Continental System', intended to close all ports to British trade. To shut off the entire continent in this way, Napoleon occupied Spain and attacked Russia, two decisions that would undermine him fatally. A series of famous battles were waged across Europe, from Trafalgar and Austerlitz to, eventually, Waterloo.

BOTHER IN IBERIA

THE PENINSULAR WAR

Spain was a French ally and let Napoleon's armies march through it to invade Portugal – a long-time trading partner of the British. However, he then forced the Spanish King to abdicate, and had his own older brother, Joseph Bonaparte, take the throne. In 1808, large parts of Spain rebelled, and managed to inflict one of the first serious defeats on one of Napoleon's generals. This was soon avenged, but the Emperor spent little time in Spain and did not complete his victory.

Although the French occupied almost all of Spain – and at times much of Portugal – they failed to win the war for two main reasons. The first was the stubborn refusal of much of the population to submit. Spanish armies were beaten time and again in battle and yet always rallied and returned to the fight. Irregular bands of *guerrilleros* fought the *guerrilla* or 'little war', ambushing French convoys, murdering stragglers and isolated detachments, wearing the occupiers down with a steady trickle of casualties.

The second reason was the intervention of the British army, led, eventually, by the Duke of Wellington. Kept from concentrating their much larger forces by the continuing Spanish resistance, the French were beaten in a succession of battles by the redcoated British and their Portuguese allies. By 1813, Wellington was able to sweep through Spain and drive the French army back beyond the Pyrenees.

NO SPAIN, NO GAIN
The British lay siege to the French-occupied town of San Sebastián in northern Spain



CHARGE!
Enemy cavalrymen clash in Saxony

6. LEIPZIG, 1813

WHERE: Leipzig, Saxony (modern-day Germany)

WHO: c200,000 French and allies against more than 300,000 Russians, Prussians, Austrians, Swedes and other allies.

VICTORS: The Russians, Prussians, Austrians et al.

LOSSES: The French and allies lost more than 38,000 dead and wounded, plus at least 30,000 were captured and 5,000 changed sides. The Russians, Prussians, Austrians et al suffered c54,000 casualties.

WHAT HAPPENED: Napoleon had re-built his army after the Russian disaster, but was now driven from Germany. The fighting was vast in scale, spread over several days, with none of the subtle tactics used at Austerlitz and earlier victories.



BATTLE ZONES

Europe became a bloody theatre of war during this era, with costly battles fought in most of the major empires

Waterloo

FRANCE

4. WAGRAM, 1809

WHERE: On the Danube River, near Vienna

WHO: 188,000 French and allies against 155,000 Austrians.

VICTORS: The French

LOSSES: 32,500 French and allied casualties and 7,000 prisoners. c40,000 Austrian casualties.

WHAT HAPPENED: In 1809, Austria risked breaking the alliance with France. Napoleon moved against them and, with very hard fighting, managed to defeat them. It would be three years before any of the other great powers would dare to challenge him.

PORTUGAL

SPAIN

Trafalgar



1. TRAFALGAR, 1805

WHERE: Off Cape Trafalgar, near Cadiz, Spain

WHO: 29 British ships against 33 French and Spanish ships

VICTORS: The British

LOSSES: The British had 1,663 casualties. The allies suffered heavier human losses, as well as 18 ships.

WHAT HAPPENED: Nelson's victory secured Britain from invasion by Napoleon's army, but came at the cost of his own life.



COLD FRONT

THE RUSSIAN CAMPAIGN

After its defeat in 1807, Russia became a French ally – “I hate the English as much as you do,” the Tsar is supposed to have said to Napoleon. Yet, to close their ports to British trade, as was part of the agreement, took its toll on Russia’s fragile economy. Over time, the alliance lost its appeal. Napoleon could not afford to let the Russians break with him, so he massed an army of 500,000 men in Poland. Only a minority were French, the rest came from allies and subject peoples all over Europe.

Napoleon invaded in 1812, hoping to smash the Russian army in a great battle. But the Tsar’s generals withdrew deeper and deeper into the country. Napoleon kept advancing until, at Borodino, he finally

got his battle and won a costly victory. Russian losses were appalling, but they did not give in. Instead, they left Moscow to the invaders and retired to rebuild their army.

The Tsar would not negotiate and, after weeks hoping that he would change his mind, Napoleon began to withdraw to where he hoped to supply his troops. It was late in the year, and a savage winter arrived early. Harassed by the Russians, his army was destroyed by hunger, cold and disease.

80

The number of horses that perished for every mile travelled during the retreat from Moscow

DEEP FREEZE

During the retreat from Moscow, Napoleon’s troops had to endure temperatures of **-35°C** with totally insufficient food and clothing. At the worst times, the men dropped at **5,000 a day**.

BLEAK TIMES
Losing men by the minute, the French rear guard retreats from Russia

5. BORODINO, 1812

WHERE: 77 miles west of Moscow

WHO: c135,000 French and allies against 120,000 Russians

VICTORS: French

LOSSES: The French and allies lost c35,000 casualties in battle, the Russians, c45,000.

WHAT HAPPENED: Napoleon drove the Russians back, but failed to break their will to fight on. The casualties were appalling on both sides and, like Wagram, showed that battles were becoming slogging matches.

Borodino

RUSSIA

3. TREATY OF TILSIT, 1807

WHERE: Tilsit (now Sovetsk) Russia

WHO: France and Russia

OUTCOME: Russia allies with France and joins the Continental System.

WHAT HAPPENED: Following on from victory at the Battle of Friedland and having defeated Prussia the previous year, Napoleon now forced the remaining great power to submit to his will and join his Continental System, against Britain.

BLOCKADE BATTLE
American and British ships collide in the Atlantic

GLOBAL STRUGGLE

THE FIRST WORLD WAR?

Until 1914, the struggle with Napoleon was for most people, and especially the British, *the* great war, and it was certainly a global struggle. Dominance at sea was vital, and so navies operated in all the oceans of the world, as countries did their best to poach each other’s colonies. Napoleon attacked Egypt and dreamed of marching to India. British soldiers attacked Buenos Aires, captured Mauritius and Cape Colony, fought in India and on islands dotted round the globe. In 1812, war with the USA broke out because of British efforts to blockade the French Empire and became part of the struggle. In the course of it, the redcoats repulsed attempts to take Canada, burned Washington DC and marched to defeat outside New Orleans.

ITALY

Vienna

Brno

Leipzig

PRUSSIA

AUSTRIA

VIVE LA FRANCE
Austerlitz was a great French victory

2. AUSTERLITZ, 1805

WHERE: Near Brno (in modern-day Czech Republic)

WHO: c73,000 French against 86,000 Austrians and Russians.

VICTORS: The French

LOSSES: The French suffered c8,500 casualties. The allies lost c15,000 dead and wounded, and 12,000 prisoners.

WHAT HAPPENED: Napoleon left Boulogne, marched halfway across Europe and won probably his greatest victory. Austria was knocked out of the war.

AGAINST THE ODDS
The British won despite smaller numbers at Trafalgar



THE THREE GENERALS

Three Napoleonic War leaders should be remembered more than any others – the three who would meet at Waterloo in 1815

Both Napoleon and Wellington were born in 1769, but in most other ways their lives were different. One was an enigmatic and beloved ruler, the other a reliable and responsible general. And there would be another commander to consider at the Battle of Waterloo – Prussia's Field Marshall Blücher, who proved himself throughout the Napoleonic Wars.

GLORY HUNTER

The charismatic hero of the French Revolution who made himself Emperor, Napoleon ruled well, bringing an end to the chaos and establishing new laws and regulations. But all of this, and the state itself, was employed to serve his own ambitions. He made his brothers kings and princes, and fed his regime with military glory, spending the lives of countless soldiers and the wealth of France in the process.

Napoleon's victories dazzled Europe, redrawing the map as he humbled the great powers.

DUTIFUL SERVANT

Wellington (or Sir Arthur Wellesley before he was awarded his peerage) was the younger son of an Anglo-Irish aristocratic family, and did well from his older brother's political success. Yet he was always a dutiful servant of his country – a *nimmukwallah* was the Indian slang he sometimes used. It was in India that he first led an army and won victories. Napoleon, and plenty of British observers, dismissed him as a Sepoy General, only good at fighting poorly armed enemies, but this was unfair to both Wellington and his adversaries. In Portugal and Spain he proved himself more than a match for some of Napoleon's ablest men.

Aggressively fought battles, like Austerlitz in 1805, shattered the enemy and won the campaign

at a stroke. In his early victories, Wellington repulsed French attacks but at the same time he was more careful with his soldiers' lives. They did not adore him, as the French did Napoleon, but the redcoats came to trust him. At Salamanca and Vittoria, he smashed his opponents as thoroughly as Napoleon had ever done.

'MARSCHALL VORWÄRTS'

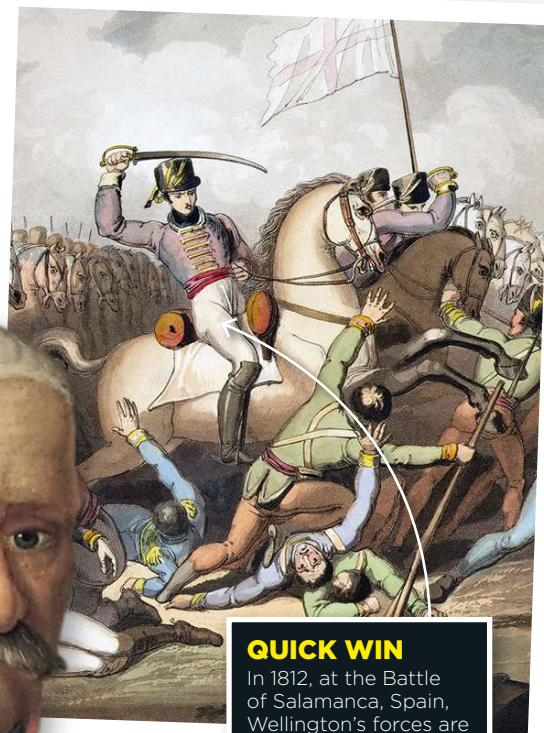
Field Marshal Gebhard Lebrecht von Blücher was 27 years older than the other two leaders, and unlike them in almost every way. There was little subtlety about his generalship, which was uniformly aggressive. Russian soldiers serving under him in 1814 gave him the nickname 'Marschall Vorwärts' – 'Marshal Forwards'.

Every time he was beaten he recovered and quickly returned to the fight. Napoleon had beaten Blücher several times and never met Wellington before. He would underestimate both of them in 1815.

“WELLINGTON WAS MORE CAREFUL WITH HIS SOLDIERS' LIVES”

READY TO RUMBLE

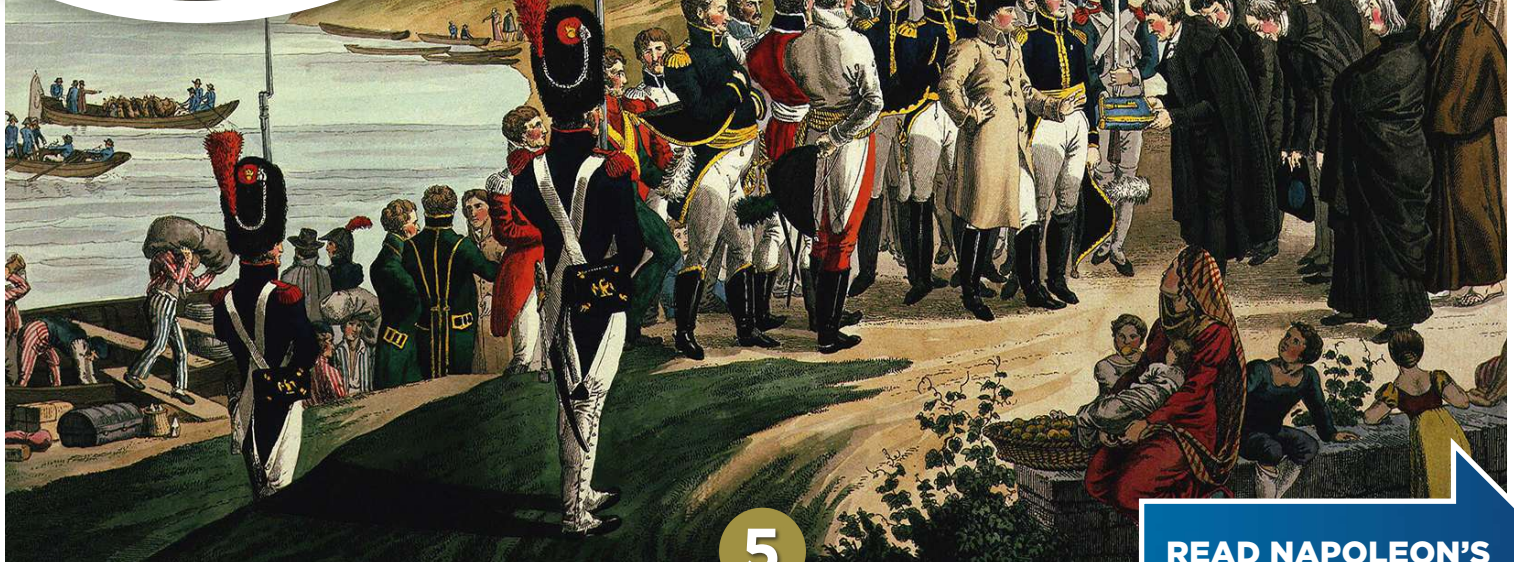
FAR LEFT Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte
LEFT: The Duke of Wellington
BELOW: Field Marshal Gebhard Lebrecht von Blücher
RIGHT: Wellington beats a French army in Spain



QUICK WIN

In 1812, at the Battle of Salamanca, Spain, Wellington's forces are said to have beaten **40,000 Frenchmen** in 40 minutes.





DOWN AND OUT
FAR LEFT: Napoleon's forces are crushed at Leipzig in 1813
LEFT: Doomed to fail, the French defend Paris in 1814
MAIN: Exiled, the Emperor arrives at his new domain: Elba

5

END OF AN ERA

Eventually, the powerful Napoleon was forced to abdicate and was cast into exile – of sorts...

READ NAPOLEON'S COMEBACK STORY ON PAGE 38

After defeat at Leipzig, Napoleon retreated to France as the Allies prepared an invasion. Wellington was already past the Pyrenees, but the main attacks would come across the Rhine, from Russian, Prussian, Austrian and Bavarian armies. All were operating at the end of very long supply lines and all were weary of war, but their numbers were overwhelming.

Yet for a few months at the start of 1814, the Emperor seemed once again to be the active young genius of his early campaigns. Marching quickly in spite of the bad weather,

he time and again outmanoeuvred the ponderous Allied armies and won a series of little victories. Together, his veteran Imperial Guard and newly formed battalions of teenage conscripts stood up to the invaders. Even so, the Allies kept advancing and each of his successes cost him lives.

Napoleon could delay the inevitable, but his final defeat became just a matter of time. He was offered peace, but refused to accept terms that would have stripped France of almost all the land gained since 1793. Yet the people of France

were exhausted by long years of war and disillusioned by the recent defeats. Many of his generals were just as tired. Marshal Marmont surrendered and let the Allies take Paris at the end of March. A few days later, a group of marshals confronted him and refused to continue the campaign. Napoleon abdicated, survived an attempt at suicide and was granted the small Mediterranean island of Elba as his new kingdom, taking with him many attendants and 600 of his Imperial Guard. He was carried to his realm in HMS *Undaunted*.

12,000

The population of Elba, when Napoleon became exiled there



TIMELINE The rises (and

From a lawyer's son to Emperor of the French, Napoleon's remarkable tale is



Carlo Maria Buonaparte,
Napoleon's father

1769

Born Napoleone Buonaparte in Corsica, he changes his name to Napoleon Bonaparte after moving to France.

1779

As a child, Napoleon begins training for his career at the military college in Brienne, France.



1784

Napoleon's last year of education is held at the military school in Paris. During this time, his father dies of stomach cancer.

1785

After graduating, Napoleon is commissioned as a Second Lieutenant (Sous-Lieutenant) in the French Artillery.



1808

After his intervention in Spain - during which he declares his brother, Joseph, the King of the country - turns sour, Napoleon leads a short campaign there.



1807

The Emperor wins a victory over the Russians at Friedland and then makes a peace with them at Tilsit.

1806

In September, the Prussians enter the war but one month later Napoleon defeats them at Jena and at Auerstadt. Prussia surrenders.

1805

Nelson smashes the Emperor's navy at Trafalgar, but Napoleon beats the Russians and Austrians at Austerlitz. Austria surrenders.



1804

After proclaiming the French Empire, Napoleon has himself crowned as Emperor in the Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

1809

After France defeats them at the Battle of Wagram, Austria surrenders again. This victory prevents the formation of an anti-French coalition.



1810

Josephine and Napoleon are divorced and he marries the 19-year-old Archduchess Marie-Louise of Austria.

1811

His long-awaited son and heir is born and named King of Rome.

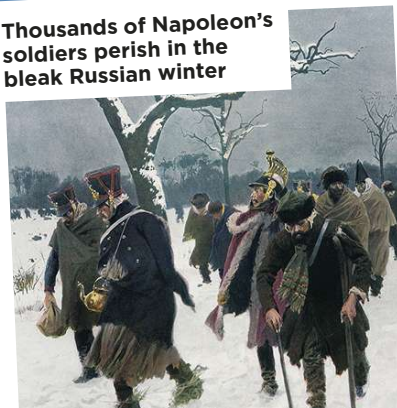
1812

During war with Russia, Napoleon invades and takes Moscow, but is then forced into a costly retreat.

1813

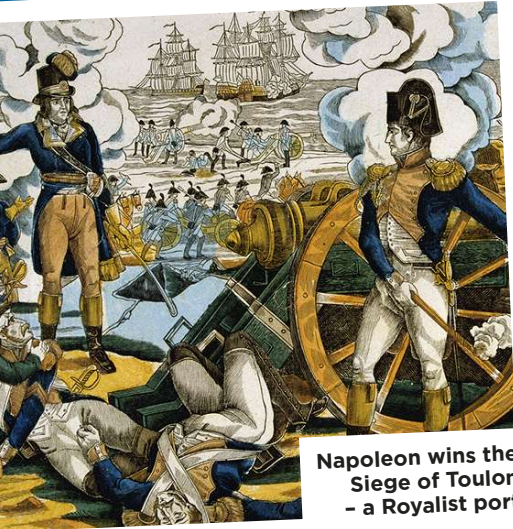
The Emperor is beaten by the allies at Leipzig (modern-day Germany), and loses his control of central Europe.

Thousands of Napoleon's soldiers perish in the bleak Russian winter



falls) of an Emperor

one of glorious victories and humiliating defeats...



Napoleon wins the Siege of Toulon – a Royalist port

1793

Promoted to Captain, he commands the Revolutionaries' artillery at the Siege of Toulon, in France, and is raised to the rank of Brigadier-General.

1795

Napoleon uses his cannon to scatter a large crowd of protesters in Paris, and wins the gratitude of the Directorate (the current Revolutionary government).

1796

He marries widow Josephine de Beauharnais and is appointed Commander of the army in Italy.



1797

Napoleon defeats the Austrians at the Battle of Rivoli in Italy – the crowning victory in a campaign against the Austrians.



1802

The Peace of Amiens is agreed with Britain, but the treaty lasts for barely a year before war breaks out again.

1800

As First Consul, he wins another shattering victory over the Austrians at Marengo in Italy.

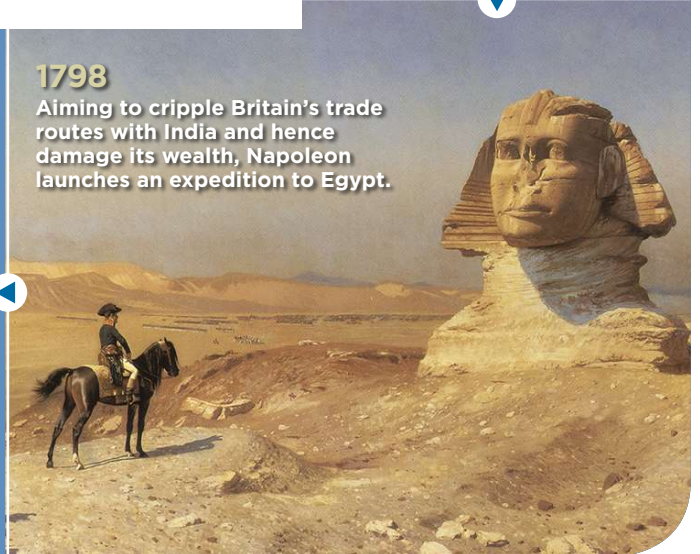


1799

The victorious Napoleon returns to France and becomes one of three consuls leading the Republic. Soon, he becomes the First Consul.

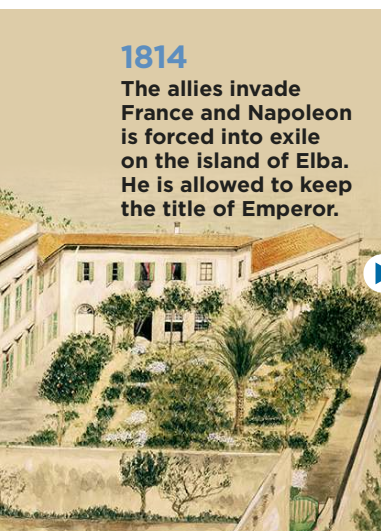
1798

Aiming to cripple Britain's trade routes with India and hence damage its wealth, Napoleon launches an expedition to Egypt.



1814

The allies invade France and Napoleon is forced into exile on the island of Elba. He is allowed to keep the title of Emperor.

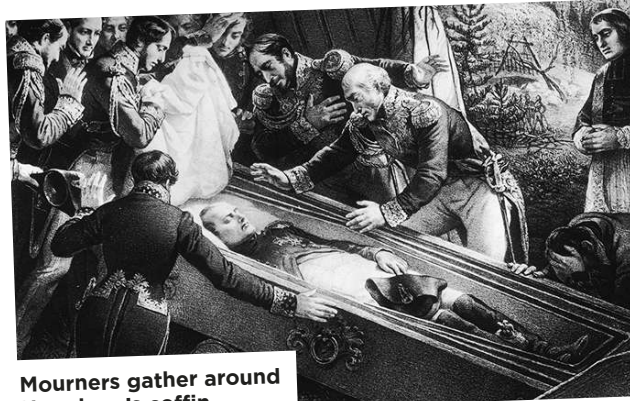


1815

After sensing a shift in the political sphere, Napoleon returns to France. After an impressive comeback, he is ultimately defeated at Waterloo. He is cast into exile on the incredibly remote South Atlantic island of St Helena.

1821

Having been showing signs of illness since 1817 – possibly a cancer of the stomach – the Emperor dies on St Helena.



Mourners gather around Napoleon's coffin

1840

His remains are returned to Paris, where a grand tomb at the *Dôme des Invalides* is built to house them.



NAPOLEON'S COMEBACK

After abdication, exile and humiliation, the ex-Emperor of France was down, but not out. Soon enough, Napoleon launched his return to greatness, and to the battlefield...





NEAR TO HOME

An island exile may sound remote, but Elba is just 40 miles from his place of birth, Corsica, and a mere **20 miles from Italy** – where his family held power. Indeed, the 170-mile sail to Cannes, France, took just a couple of days.

AU REVOIR, ELBA

The Emperor prepares to slip away from his isle of exile and return to France



The former master of Europe was now the nominal monarch of an obscure island. In exile on Elba, he was surrounded by the faded trappings of court ceremony, while the pension promised to him

did not materialise. Napoleon wrote again and again to his wife, Marie Louise, the daughter of the Austrian Emperor, asking her to come to him. Even if she could not or would not, he begged her to send their infant son. Neither request was granted as, although he did not know it, the letters were intercepted by his wife's family and never reached her.

A Napoleon who longs for his wife and child may cut a very human figure, but he remained the ambitious, supremely self-confident gambler who had made himself Emperor. As the months passed, he received regular reports on events in Europe and sensed a shift. The Bourbon King Louis XVIII, younger brother of the man beheaded in 1793, returned to rule France. Ageing, overweight and lacking charisma, he had spent the last decades as an exile in Britain. He did not know his subjects and they did not know him. The same was true of all the royalist exiles who returned with him and received plum posts in government and the army.

THE GAME'S AFOOT

This was no longer the France of before the Revolution. Napoleon's soldiers resented the drastic reduction in size of the army and being made to serve under exiles who had never smelled powder. Tens of thousands of prisoners of war returned home and were left unemployed and resentful of their former captors. Civilians saw the royal court as corrupt, incompetent and arrogant. At the same time,

NAPOLEON RETURNS
This romanticised image shows the hero's welcome Napoleon's soldiers gave him on his return



BOY KING
Napoleon's wife and baby boy – recently made King of Rome

“NAPOLEON WAITED, SENSING THE GAME WAS NOT YET OVER”

the great powers met at the Congress of Vienna to decide the shape of Europe, where memories of their recent alliance quickly faded as old rivalries reappeared. Disputes over territory became so bitter that there were fears of war.

Napoleon watched and waited, sensing the game was not yet over, and that even from defeat he could somehow turn everything around. He could not delay too long. Given time, the new King might establish himself, the allies might settle their differences, and the outrage of his old soldiers might fade. At the end of February 1815, he slipped away from Elba, landing on the Côte d'Azur on 1 March. He had just 600 soldiers and Paris was almost as many miles away, but the march that followed became epic. Near Grenoble, a battalion of the 5th Line Infantry blocked

their path. Not wanting civil war, Napoleon walked alone towards them – the soldiers tore off the white cockades of the Bourbon King and rallied to their Emperor. His old commander, Marshal Ney, boasted that he would bring Napoleon back in an iron cage, but his troops also defected. The closer he got to Paris, and the more soldiers joined him, the more respect he commanded, as shown in the way the story was told in the newspaper *Le Moniteur*. At first he was the “Corsican Ogre”, a “monster”, a “tyrant” and the “usurper”. Then he became “Bonaparte”, next “Napoleon”, until, on 22 March, the paper announced that “yesterday His Majesty” arrived in Paris. Louis XVIII had already fled to the Netherlands.

Napoleon claimed that he wanted only to restore pride and prosperity to France, and wished for peace with his neighbours.

For all their differences, the powers at Vienna would not accept the return of Napoleon, and none believed that he would keep the peace in the long run. Yet no one was

ready to fight a war. Their armies had mainly returned home. The Russians and Austrians were not capable of taking the field before late summer at the earliest. A Prussian army could be mustered quicker than that, but it would not include many of their best troops. Even so, the army was sent to the Netherlands to act alongside a mixed force of Dutch, Belgian, German and British troops.

THE START OF THE HUNDRED

The tumultuous period of French history that began after Napoleon's arrival in Paris on 20 March 1815 and ran until the return of Louis XVIII on 8 July is known as *Cent Jours* or the **Hundred Days**.



STREET PARTY

Paris erupts into celebration as the Emperor enters the city

NAPOLEON AND THE BRITISH

The French and the British had long been enemies, but the rivalry reached fierce heights under Napoleon's rule

Britain stood in the way of Napoleon's ultimate victory – although he always referred to it as “England” or “perfidious Albion”. He was the greatest general of the age and had turned France and its empire into a formidably effective machine for waging war on land. But Britain controlled the seas. Because it was an island, Napoleon could not take his army there, capture London and force a peace. Yet Britain had far too small an army to beat the French on the continent. Indeed, Britain could only fight with allies, and when its partners were beaten, it could not prevent the unification of all Europe under one hostile power.

To the British, Napoleon was a monster – the ‘Corsican Ogre’. He told the rest of Europe that only the English stood in the way of peace. With some truth, he kept saying that the British would subsidise others to fight on their behalf, but did not risk their own soldiers in any numbers. Thus, Europeans died to keep England safe, while it grew ever-more wealthy as it expanded in distant lands, and kept a tight control on all maritime trade. Plenty of people in Russia, Austria, and Prussia shared some of these sentiments, but in the end the prospect of living in a world where France dominated and could exploit them at will was even less attractive.

210,000

The number of new recruits that joined the British army between 1793 and 1813



CATS AND DOGS (AND FROGS)

Both sides were **dehumanised** by the satirical artists of the day. Even Napoleon derided the ‘English’ as leopards, after one of the animals on the British royal crest.



SATIRICAL SWIPES

- 1: British Prime Minister William Pitt and Napoleon carve up the world between them in this 1805 cartoon
- 2: A British bulldog overpowers a blood hound, which bears a startling resemblance to Napoleon
- 3: The Emperor struggles on his way to Elba after his 1814 abdication
- 4: The “Corsican crocodile”, Napoleon, dissolves the “Council of Frogs” – the Council of State





THE BIG STORY WATERLOO, 1815



FINAL VICTORY

Napoleon's **last-ever victory** on the battlefield came when he hammered Blücher and his men at Ligny. Just two days later, the leaders would clash again, at Waterloo.

HOLD THE LIGNY
The Prussians flounder against the French at Ligny, in present-day Belgium

“NAPOLEON NEEDED TO HIT THE ENEMY HARD, BEFORE THEY COULD JOIN TOGETHER”

Time was against Napoleon, and once again he worked miracles as he assembled an army, organising and equipping new units, but he could not afford to wait. If he remained on the defensive then, eventually, the allies would attack France in overwhelming numbers. The Emperor had to strike, and the only place he could do this was to hit the armies gathering in the Netherlands. Win a great victory there, and it might just make some of the allies waver and be willing to negotiate with him. At the very least, he could hope to inflict heavy losses and so start to even the odds against him. In the early hours of 15 June, the first French soldiers crossed the border into Belgium.

THE EMPEROR STRIKES BACK

Napoleon had 123,000 men and 358 cannon. Facing him were some 130,000 Prussians under Field Marshal Blücher and 100,000 men in the Anglo-Dutch army under the Duke of Wellington. Both armies included large numbers of inexperienced soldiers, and others who, until only recently, had fought as allies of the French. They were also widely dispersed to cover the border and to make it easier to billet and feed them. Napoleon's troops were largely veterans, and he also had the even greater advantage that his opponents did not know when or where he would strike. He needed to hit the enemy hard before they could concentrate and, most of all, to prevent Wellington and Blücher joining together.

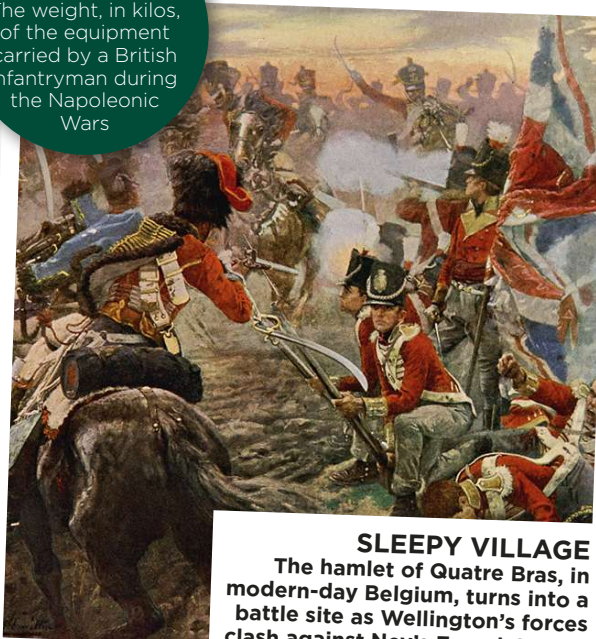
The Prussians guarded the frontier

where the French invaded. Napoleon knew from experience that the old warrior was instinctively aggressive. On the other hand, Wellington was known to be cautious, and in the event misread the situation, for he was convinced that the French would swing around his right flank and try to cut him off from the shore – and his communications with Britain. It was not until late on 15 June that he realised his mistake, declaring “Napoleon has humbugged us, by God.” The realisation came at the famous ball held by the Duchess of Richmond in Brussels – much of London society had come to watch the war from a safe distance.

The next day was hot and humid. Blücher had some two thirds of

28

The weight, in kilos, of the equipment carried by a British infantryman during the Napoleonic Wars



SLEEPY VILLAGE
The hamlet of Quatre Bras, in modern-day Belgium, turns into a battle site as Wellington's forces clash against Ney's French troops

his army concentrated at Ligny. Wellington rode over to meet him, and promised to march to join him, but his army took too long to muster and part of it was attacked at the crossroads of Quatre Bras. Claims that Wellington duped his ally into fighting have often been made, but are unlikely to be true. Blücher was determined to fight and Napoleon readily obliged him. The Battle of Ligny was an attritional pounding match, and the Prussians were ground down by the French artillery and driven from their positions by evening. At Quatre Bras, the other wing of the French army was led by Marshal Ney. He had only arrived the afternoon before, after Napoleon's original choice of general had fallen ill. Ney inflicted heavy losses on Wellington's men, but was repulsed. Due to confusion over their orders, some 20,000 French infantry spent the day marching between the two battlefields and failed to intervene in either.

DAY OF THUNDERSTORMS

On 17 June, Napoleon believed the Prussians were too badly damaged to pose an immediate threat, and detached some 35,000 men under Marshal Grouchy to follow Blücher and ensure that he did not join Wellington. Napoleon and Ney took the rest of the army, and followed Wellington. It took time for the French to marshal their forces, and so Wellington got his army away and retreated along the main road north to Brussels. During a day of downpours and thunderstorms, the British cavalry fought a series of delaying actions to keep the pursuers at bay. The rain continued through the night as the Anglo-Dutch army deployed along the ridge at Mont St Jean. Wellington had his headquarters in the village of Waterloo a little to the north, and kept his tradition of naming the battle after the place where he had slept the night before.

The Sun came up in a clear sky on Sunday 18 June, with some of the French still marching to join the rest of the army facing the ridge. Napoleon expected the Anglo-Dutch to retreat again, and was pleased when they did not. Wellington was determined to fight, having received Blücher's promise to aid him with at least one of the four corps in his army. Napoleon trusted Grouchy to keep him away. The Emperor had never before faced the British in battle but, at least publicly, was dismissive. “Just because you have been beaten by Wellington,” he told his chief of staff, “you think he's a good general. I tell you, Wellington is a bad general, the English are bad troops and this affair is nothing more than eating breakfast!”

READ ON: TURN OVER FOR THE BATTLE OF WATERLOO

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LIBERTÉ, ÉGALITÉ, FRATERNITÉ

Napoleon's cavalry ride into battle in
Sergey Bondarchuk's 1970 film, *Waterloo*



The Battle of Waterloo

Having staged an impressive return, Napoleon's hopes of victory were high. But in one bloody day, his dreams of French glory and domination would be shattered

CAPTURE THE FLAG

This painting depicts Sergeant Ewart of the Scots Greys capturing a French eagle – one of two taken on the day. When Ewart retired, he **opened a pub** near Edinburgh Castle, which now bears his name.



BATTLE CONTEXT

FRENCH

Commander Napoleon
Infantry 53,400
Cavalry 15,600
Total 69,000
Guns 246
Losses at least 25,000
Aim to break the Duke of Wellington's army
Advantages slightly larger numbers; far more artillery; more experienced soldiers

ANGLO-DUTCH

Commander Wellington
Infantry 53,800
Cavalry 13,335
Total 67,135
Guns 157
Losses c14,400-15,000
Aim to hold out until the Prussians arrive
Advantages a strong defensive position; ridge to give some shelter from enemy artillery; Wellington's active command

PRUSSIAN

Commander Blücher
Infantry 38,000
Cavalry 7,000
Total 45,000 (although most arrived as the day wore on)
Guns 134
Losses c4,800-7,000
Aim to reach the battle, so the allies outnumber the French
Advantages Blücher's determination; his chief of staff's administrative skill; his soldiers' deep hatred of the French

OUTCOME

Allied victory. While some claim this outcome was all down to the Prussians, others believe Wellington would have coped alone. The truth is simple. Wellington only risked battle after receiving Blücher's promise of aid. From the beginning, this was an allied effort and it was an allied victory – the credit is shared between all involved.

CORDON BLEU

While Wellington's soldiers were low on rations, one of the reasons his troops were able to withdraw so easily from Quatre Bras, on 17 June, was because Napoleon's veterans **took their time** cooking and **eating breakfast**.

On the morning of the battle, Wellington's soldiers woke cold and wet after a day and night of drenching rain. One officer wrote that "it rained as if the water were tumbled out of tubs." Few had slept under cover, and many had little or no food apart from what they had found and stolen. Wellington had given strict orders

against looting, but many hungry men ignored them. Of his 68,000 troops, only a minority wore the scarlet jackets of the British and Hanoverian infantry, and there were Dutch and Belgians in blue, Germans from the little state of Nassau in green, and Brunswickers in sombre black. It was a colourful army, even though most were liberally spattered with mud. As the hours passed, they watched Napoleon review his

soldiers, bands playing, cavalry and infantry parading in their own colourful splendour in a display of strength. Slowed by the mud and waiting for the last of his soldiers to arrive, the Emperor was not ready to attack until nearly noon. Wellington's men took up their positions and waited. There were two strong points ahead of the ridge, the chateau at Hougomont on his right, and the farm of La Haye de Sainte just to the left



BATTLEFIELD WATERLOO, 1815

of his centre. His main force was sheltered behind the ridge, arranged so that the different nationalities were mixed together, as were his veterans and his raw troops. His aim was to prevent any section of the line being too weak.

OFF WITH A BANG

The battle began when lines of French field guns started pounding the allied position. It was the loudest noise most of Wellington's soldiers would ever hear, but only a few units were exposed to the deluge of cannon balls, and most were protected by the ridge – unlike the Prussians at Ligny (see page 42) who had suffered badly under a similar barrage.

The first French attack came at Hougomont, held by a detachment of Foot Guards as well as German troops. Over the afternoon, a large part of one of the three-army corps – which, together with the Imperial Guard made up the bulk of Napoleon's army – became sucked into the attack on the chateau. At the same time, many of Wellington's troops were pinned in place protecting it. Part of the chateau was set ablaze by French howitzers, and there were several break-ins. One saw French light infantry surge into the main courtyard, but a party led by Lieutenant Colonel MacDonnell of the Scots Guards and a sergeant managed to bar the gate behind them. All the French were killed in a savage hand-to-hand brawl.

While this fight raged, Napoleon launched his main attack with another corps commanded by General D'Erlon. Covered by a heavy barrage, infantry attacked La Haye de Sainte and the ridge to the east. A Netherlands brigade that had fought well at Quatre Bras (see

page 42) but suffered heavy losses there, broke before the onslaught.

The French columns kept going, and next met with Picton's British troops – veterans of the Peninsular War, who had also lost many at Quatre Bras. Picton, a rough, foul-mouthed Welshman dressed in civilian garb because his uniform had not arrived, was shot in the head and killed, but the French advance was stalled. Even so, numbers were on their side, and the situation was critical.

Then Wellington launched his heavy cavalry – a brigade of Life Guards, the Blues and King's Dragoon Guards, and the Union Brigade with a regiment of dragoons each from England,

Scotland and Ireland. The French infantry were not in formation to meet a cavalry charge and were ridden down: "As we approached at a moderate pace, the fronts and flanks began to turn

their backs inwards; the rear of the columns had already begun to run away," wrote one staff officer. Two precious eagle standards were captured – Sergeant Ewart of the

1904

The year that the last-known survivor of the battle – Elizabeth Watkins – died. She gave water to the wounded.



IN FORMATION
Wellington's defensive squares hold their form against cavalry charges

THE IMPENETRABLE SQUARE

The infantry in all armies of this period used the square to defend against cavalry, but the British squares at Waterloo became famous. With the men four deep and facing in all directions, the cavalry could not get at the infantry, but it took a steady nerve for the foot soldiers to stay in formation. Sometimes they were so terrified of the approaching cavalry that they broke ranks and were slaughtered. At Waterloo, the British stayed firm.

SMART HORSES

Unlike their riders, horses will not run into a seemingly solid object. If the men in the square did not flee, then the horses would stop or flow around to ride through the gaps between the squares.

FRENCH CUIRASSIERS

Big men on big horses, the sight of cuirassiers bearing down was often enough to make the enemy flee. Their armour would not stop a bullet at close range.



THE KEY PLAYERS

To many, Waterloo was a grudge match between Napoleon and Wellington, but there was another general in the mix.



EMPEROR NAPOLEON

Born in Corsica in 1769, his family sent him to France a child to attend military school. After graduating, he quickly rose to military prominence and made himself Emperor. After defeat and exile, he returned to France in 1815.



DUKE OF WELLINGTON

The Anglo-Dutch commander at Waterloo was born in Ireland in 1769. His military skills first impressed in India and then again in the Peninsular War. He later became British Prime Minister.



FIELD MARSHAL GEBHARD LEBRECHT VON BLÜCHER

Born in Mecklenburg (modern-day Germany), in 1742, this fiery, aggressive chap fought for the Swedish and then the Prussian armies, leading the latter at Waterloo.

DEADLY WEAPONS

In one day, Waterloo saw such carnage that this battle is easily comparable to the first day of the Somme. Perhaps it is unsurprising, then, that the soldiers were equipped with the most advanced weapons, ammunition and specialised equipment of the time...

FIRST AND SECOND RANKS

The two front ranks knelt down, and held their muskets at 45°, the bayonets presenting a hedge of sharp spikes.

THIRD AND FOURTH RANKS

The rear ranks stood and fired their muskets to drive off the cavalry.

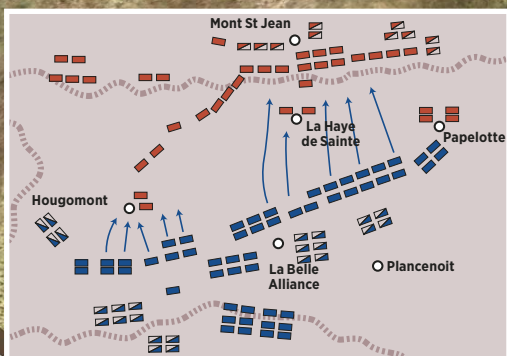
OBLONGS

This simplified illustration shows how the British 'squares' were actually rectangles, but the men would have stood in four ranks, rather than two. The battalions formed a checker board across the battlefield, so each could fire from all sides without the risk of hitting another 'square'.

RIDGELINE

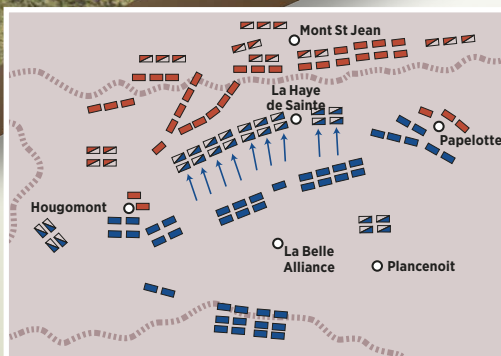
The shape of the slope at Waterloo made it difficult for the French to see many of the squares until the last minute.

	Anglo-Dutch	Prussian	French
Cavalry			
Infantry			



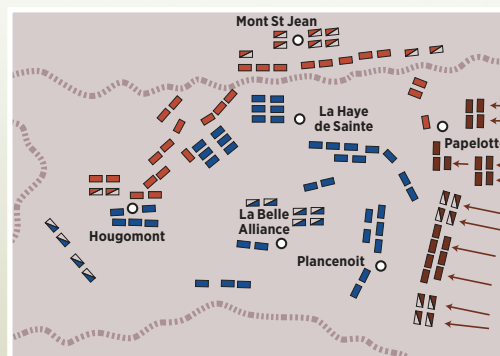
1 ATTACKING THE STRONGPOINTS

The battle begins with Napoleon's diversionary attack on chateau Hougomont, in order to make a more full-on assault on the allied centre. But the British do not fall into the trap. The struggle for Hougomont and La Haye de Sainte themselves become battles that grind down the French.



2 CAVALRY CHARGES

The allies reorganise their positions. Believing they are dealing with a retreat, the French carry on with their cavalry charges. Despite their ferocity, the horsemen are repelled and suffer heavy casualties attacking the allied infantry deployed in squares.



3 THE FINAL PUSH

Napoleon orders his Imperial Guard to attack the allied centre. Enough allies are left to repulse them with heavy volleys of musketry, and at the same time the Prussian onslaught against Napoleon's right becomes overwhelming. The French army flees.

ROCKETS

A British secret weapon, rockets were extremely imprecise and sometimes came back at their firers.

FLINTLOCK MUSKET

The standard infantry weapon, it was inaccurate beyond about 75 metres, so best used in massed volleys at short range.

SWORD OR SABRE

Most cavalry relied on a straight or curved sword. Thrusts were the most deadly, but cuts and slashes caused horribly disfiguring wounds.

ROUNDSHOT

The standard projectile of the artillery was a solid iron ball meant to smash through the target.



OBJECTS OF WAR

Two centuries on from the battle, a remarkable number of objects have been collected, preserved and, now, collated by the Waterloo 200 project. You can view all of the items online at www.nam.ac.uk/waterloo200, but here are our top picks...

LUCKY PENNY

This coin saved the life of a British soldier by stopping a French musket-ball. A George III 'cartwheel penny', it is unusually large and thick.

DENTURES OF DEATH

A set of chompers entirely made up of teeth looted from the mouths of the dead after the battle.

NAPOLEON'S BURNOUS

An Egyptian-style cloak, worn by Napoleon the night before Waterloo. After his invasion of Egypt in 1798, Napoleon became fascinated by Middle Eastern style and fashions.

GOLDEN EAGLE

This French Eagle standard of the 105th Regiment was captured by the British at the Battle of Waterloo. Every regiment had its own eagle, which was a symbol of the unit and was guarded fiercely.

FRENCH CUIRASS

A piece of armour worn by a French cavalryman who was killed at Waterloo after a cannonball smashed through his chest.

WELLINGTON'S BOOTS

Sadly not made of rubber, these are Wellington's actual boots. The Duke popularised such medium-length leather boots, from which modern-day wellies evolved.

Scots Greys described how the eagle-bearer "Thrust for my groin – I parried it off, and... cut him through the head." Another man came at him on horseback, and "I cut him through the chin upwards, which cut through his teeth. Next I was attacked by a foot soldier..." whose shot missed. Ewart parried the thrust bayonet and "cut him down through the head." D'Erlon's attack was broken, thousands

killed, wounded or captured, but the British cavalry chased them too far. Scattered, their horses blown, they were in turn hunted down by French cavalry. Less than half of the British returned from the attack.

SQUARE UP

La Haye de Sainte held, defended by greencoated veterans of the King's German Legion – Hanoverians serving George III,

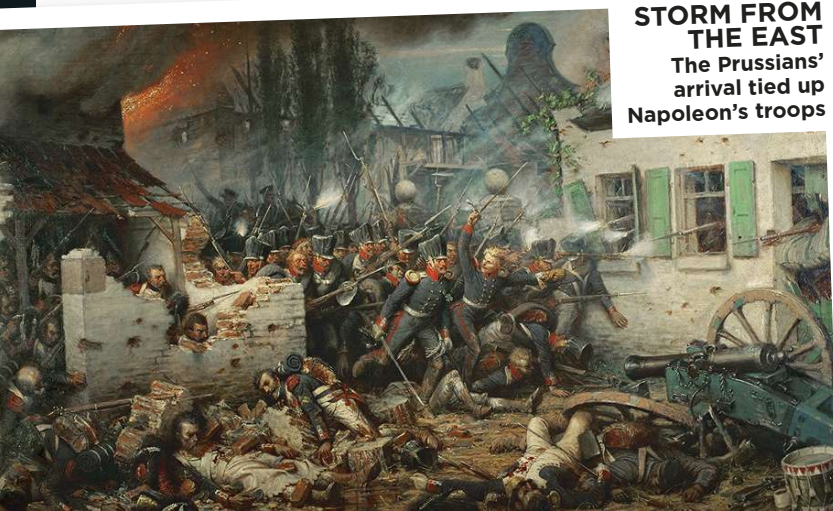
"Solid iron cannon balls carved swathes through the squares, smashing flesh and bone"

who was the ruler of their state. In the east, the first Prussians began to arrive, and forced Napoleon to commit his remaining infantry corps to protect that flank. For the moment, that meant that the only fresh troops available to continue the attack on Wellington were the cavalry reserve. Ney led more and more of these forward in charges against the ridge. The attacks were funnelled through the gap between Hougomont and La Haye de Sainte, in ground soon

churned into thick mud by the horses' hooves.

Wellington's infantry formed squares, each face four ranks deep, the front two kneeling with bayonets pointing up. No horse would impale itself on such an obstacle, but it took a steady nerve to hold this position in the face of a line of tall horsemen on big horses bearing down. One sergeant said of the French cuirassiers that he "Thought we could not have the slightest chance with them."

STORM FROM THE EAST The Prussians' arrival tied up Napoleon's troops

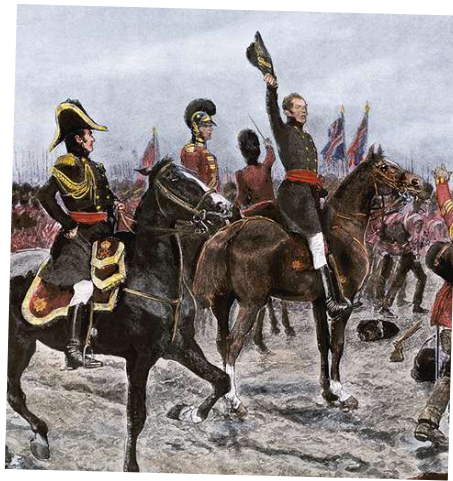




Yet the squares held firm, and volleys of musketry brought down men and horses, forming obstacles to the next charge. The French kept on attacking, and every time the cavalry withdrew to reform, their artillery savaged the squares, which offered wonderfully dense targets. The mud helped absorb some of the missiles, but even so, solid iron cannon balls carved swathes through the squares, smashing flesh and bone. The infantry did not break, but they were steadily ground down. It was almost a relief when the cavalry charged again and the guns had to stop firing – one witness remembered someone in a square shouting “Here come those damned fools again!”

ONE LAST GAMBLE

The garrison of La Haye de Sainte ran out of ammunition and the farm fell around 6pm. The Prussians were driving in Napoleon’s right flank and so



GIVE THE SIGNAL

Wellington orders the entire British line to advance

he decided on one last gamble to break Wellington. At about 7.30pm, seven battalions of his Imperial Guard struck the centre of the ridge, but were repulsed after a fierce fight. The sight of these famous veterans retreating and the news of the Prussian advance snapped the willpower of the rest

of the French army and they broke. Wellington waved his hat and the remnants of his army advanced. The British general had spent the day on the move, sheltering in squares when necessary, and always managing to be where he was needed. He had won, but at great cost and, as he put it, the battle was “the nearest-run thing you ever saw in your life.”

WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?

The French weren’t quite knocked out yet...

As his army collapsed into retreat, Napoleon took shelter in a solid square of Imperial Guardsmen before making his escape. The Prussians chased after the French. Wellington’s men sank down for an exhausted rest on the battlefield, surrounded by some 43,000 dead and wounded men and 12,000 fallen horses.

The war was not quite over. Grouchy fought a skilful delaying action on 19 June and there was resistance to the allied advance in several fortified towns. Yet it was soon obvious that Napoleon could not recover from this defeat. The allies were at Paris by the beginning of July, and Napoleon surrendered to the British. This time, the Emperor



BANISHED AGAIN

Napoleon boards the ship that will take him to St Helena

was exiled to the far-less accessible South Atlantic island of St Helena. He died six years later.

GET HOOKED

Delve further into the story of Waterloo – there’s plenty to see, read and watch...

PLACES TO SEE



▲ WATERLOO BATTLEFIELD, BELGIUM

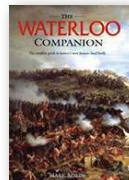
The battlefield at Waterloo is well worth a visit. This summer there is a series of events planned around the 200th anniversary, including major re-enactments on 19-20 June.

www.waterloo2015.org/en

ALSO VISIT

- **Chateau Hougomont** an atmospheric site of the battle, Waterloo, Belgium
- **Lion’s Mound** the monument at Waterloo, Belgium

BOOKS



THE WATERLOO COMPANION (2001)

By Mark Adkin

This thorough and well-illustrated study of the battle analyses the events, as well as recounting them.



WATERLOO: MYTH AND REALITY (2014)

By Gareth Glover

Glover delivers the most up-to-date account of the battle, with plenty of insight, separating the apocryphal from the factual along the way.

ALSO READ

- **Waterloo: the History of Four Days, Three Armies and Three Battles** by Bernard Cornwell
- **Waterloo: The French Perspective** by Andrew Field
- **Dancing into Battle** by Nicholas Foulkes

ON SCREEN



WATERLOO (1970)

Starring Rod Steiger and Christopher Plummer – as well as 10,000 soldier extras – this film is reasonably realistic and certainly spectacular.

ALSO WATCH

- **Sharpe’s Waterloo** (1997) Sean Bean plays the hero of Bernard Cornwell’s novels.

What doesn't kill you...

Napoleon aside, Britain has faced many severe threats in its turbulent history – and they've all defined the country today...



THE TAX MAN CALLS

THREAT: King John angers the barons
THREAT RATING: 4/10

Thanks to all of the Robin Hood movies, King John is, and always will be, a villain in English history. Believing that a monarch was above the law, he bled the barons dry with soaring taxes and ruthless money collection, which plunged the country into revolt. He is remembered as the King who gave his seal to the Magna Carta, on 12 June 1215, but he refused to abide by its limiting of royal power, saying he was coerced into the agreement. Civil war broke out until he died of dysentery in 1216.

PHIL'S REIGN IN SPAIN

THREAT: Spain launches a mass invasion
THREAT RATING: 7/10

By the late 16th century, the Spanish Empire was at the height of its power, with Philip II as its powerful ruler. After his attempt to use political scheming to gain a foothold in England – he married Queen Mary in 1554, but she died four years later – he turned to his military might. His 'invincible' Armada sailed in May 1588 and posed a serious threat to Elizabethan England. If it wasn't for poor weather, who knows what could have happened.

Philip II's empire stretched from South America to the Far East – the Philippines were named after him when discovered in 1543.



1066 AND ALL THAT

THREAT: William the Conqueror conquers
THREAT RATING: 9/10

Britain has been moulded by a plethora of disparate civilisations and cultures, but probably the most significant changes came when William, Duke of Normandy, invaded in 1066. The line of Anglo-Saxon kings ended, and William the Conqueror was crowned as the first Norman King of England. His 21-year reign had colossal ramifications on language, art, architecture and law, and sent English history on an entirely new direction.





FROM WITHIN

THREAT: Greedy empire building
THREAT RATING: 5/10

Spanning 25 per cent of the globe and a fifth of the world's population, the British Empire used force to maintain order. This made a lot of enemies, from warrior chiefs such as Riwha Titokowaru in New Zealand and the Native American leader Pontiac, to activists like Gandhi in India. Facing increasing opposition, the empire eroded throughout the 20th century.



BEWARE HOARDERS

THREAT: Huge tracts of land handed over
THREAT RATING: 3/10

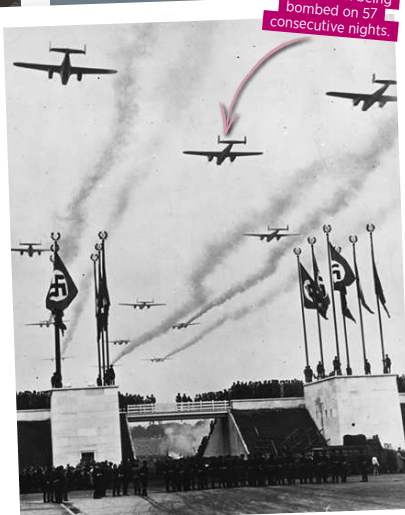
When the fifth-century King of the Britons Vortigern asked Anglo-Saxon brothers Hengist and Horsa for help in fighting the Picts, he had no idea how costly their services would be. Their initial reward was the Isle of Thanet, off the coast of Kent, but Hengist had other plans. He got Vortigern drunk, had his daughter seduce him and demanded the whole of Kent. It was the inauspicious start of Anglo-Saxon settlement in Britain.



TINY KILLERS, GIANT KILLS

THREAT: Disease culls the population
THREAT RATING: 10/10

The Black Death, catastrophic bouts of bubonic plague, killed around half of England's people as it ravaged Europe between 1348-49. Rats have long been blamed, but new research suggests that it was giant gerbils from Asia who carried the killer fleas.



The Blitz began on 7 September 1940, with London being bombed on 57 consecutive nights.

BOMBS AND DOGFIGHTS

THREAT: Major cities attacked
THREAT RATING: 7/10

If the Luftwaffe, the German Air Force in World War II, had achieved air superiority over the heavily outnumbered RAF, it would have blazed the trail for an invasion. The Allied airmen did eventually triumph in the Battle of Britain but the Luftwaffe's havoc was only beginning. Major cities were bombed to near destruction as the Blitz hammered Britain for nine months.

RAIDS AND BRAIDS

THREAT: Vikings cross the sea
THREAT RATING: 6/10

For some 200 years, the danger of raids by bearded hordes of Vikings was ever-present. If small pockets of Vikings were bad, an army was positively terrifying. In AD 865, the 'Great Heathen Army', made up of Swedes, Danes and Norwegians, landed in East Anglia and set about conquering all lands before them. They were finally defeated in AD 878 by Alfred the Great.

The giant gerbils thrived in Asia at a time when trade was booming - the plague was brought to Europe along the famous Silk Road.



BROTHERS AT ARMS

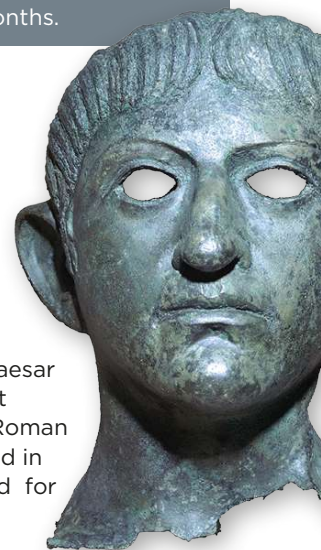
THREAT: Civil War breaks out
THREAT RATING: 8/10

In 1642, Britain was torn apart by civil war, which brought about the end of the monarchy for 11 years and caused a higher proportion of deaths relative to population than World War I. Families turned on each other as they declared allegiance to either King or Parliament.

ROAMING ROMANS

THREAT: The Romans take over
THREAT RATING: 9/10

In AD 43, Emperor Claudius went one step further than any Roman leader before him and conquered Britain. Julius Caesar invaded 90 years earlier but Claudius's crossing gave the Roman Empire the first real stronghold in Britain - from which they ruled for almost 400 years.



   **WHAT DO YOU THINK?**

Do you know any other serious threats to Britain we've missed? Get in touch and let us know...

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com



A TIME FOR VENGEANCE

A TIME FOR WAR

A TIME TO DIE

'Ben Kane is the rising star
of historical fiction.'

Wilbur Smith



AN EPIC NEW TRILOGY FROM THE
SUNDAY TIMES BESTSELLER BEN KANE

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Q&A

YOU ASK, WE ANSWER

IN A NUTSHELL 61 • HOW DID THEY DO THAT? 62 •
WHY DO WE SAY... 64 • WHAT IS IT? 65

OUR EXPERTS

EMILY BRAND

Historian, genealogist and author of *Mr Darcy's Guide to Courtship* (2013)



JULIAN HUMPHRYS

Development Officer for The Battlefields Trust and author



GREG JENNER

Horrible Histories consultant and author of *A Million Years in a Day* (2015)



SANDRA LAWRENCE

Writer and columnist specialising in British heritage subjects



RUPERT MATTHEWS

Author on a range of historical subjects, from ancient to modern



MILES RUSSELL

Author and Senior Lecturer in Archaeology at Bournemouth University



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ARMOUR ART

The helmet found at Sutton Hoo was richly adorned with battle scenes, as this replica shows



DID YOU KNOW?

PROPHET WITH POINTS

Depictions of Moses with horns - most famously in Michelangelo's statue in the church of San Pietro in Vincoli, Rome - are commonly believed to be due to an early mistranslation of the Hebrew *qaran* ('rays of light' or 'horns') into Latin as *cornuta* (horned).

WHO WAS BURIED AT SUTTON HOO?




The simple answer is: we don't know. Discovered in the weeks preceding the outbreak of World War II, the Saxon ship-burial at Sutton Hoo in Suffolk, represents one of the richest excavated Dark Age sites in western Europe, replete with a helmet, weapons, plate and dress

fittings that are now displayed in the British Museum. Sadly, because of the acidic nature of the soils at Sutton Hoo, no trace of the body at the centre of the grave survived and, in the absence of an inscription or other historical reference, the identity of the person interred will probably never be known for

sure. However, the nature of the finds, which predominantly date from the early 7th century, have led some archaeologists and historians to suggest that this may have been the final resting place of a king, most probably Raedwald, ruler of the East Angles, who died sometime around AD 624. **MR**

What was Negus?

 Colonel Francis Negus, English officer and politician, is credited with inventing this hot spiced drink, which was popular in the early 18th century. Made from fortified wine (sherry or port) with lemons, sugar and nutmeg, negus was a must at Regency balls and was mentioned in *Vanity Fair*, *Wuthering Heights*, *Jane Eyre* and many of Dickens' novels. By mid-Victorian times it had fallen out of fashion. In 1861, Mrs Beeton recommended it for children's parties, suggesting one pint of wine per nine or 10 children. SL

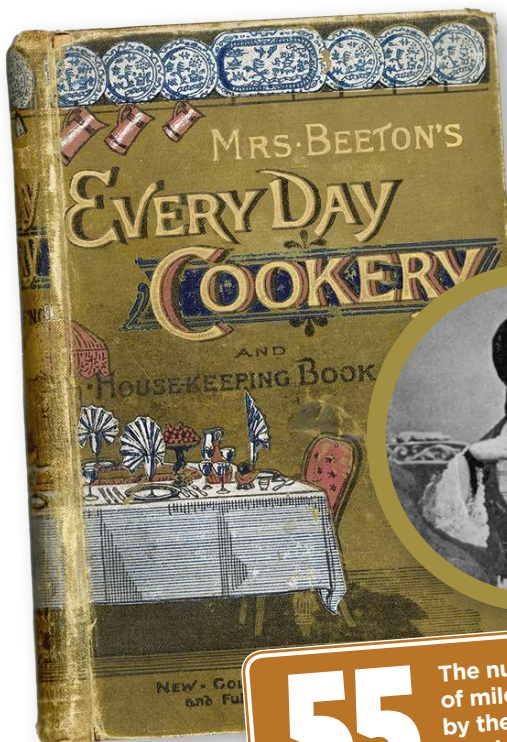
DID YOU KNOW?

BUNK IN A TRUNK

Famous dandy and Master of Ceremonies in Bath Richard 'Beau' Nash never married, but he had a beloved mistress named Juliana Popjoy. When he died in 1761, she was allegedly so upset that she chose to live in a hollow tree near Warminster.



MEDAL FOR MONGRELS
Crossbreed Rob was awarded the Dickin Medal for service including 20 parachute jumps



COOKING THE BOOKS


By the Victorian era, Negus was considered a children's drink, as Mrs Beeton's recipe confirms



55

The number, in thousands, of miles of paved roads built by the Romans across the Empire – enough to circle the world seven times.

WERE ANY ANIMALS DECORATED DURING WORLD WAR II?

 Instituted in 1943, the PSDA Dickin Medal – considered by many to be 'the animal Victoria Cross' – was awarded to 53 animals in recognition of particular gallantry, loyalty or the life-saving actions undertaken during their service in World War II.

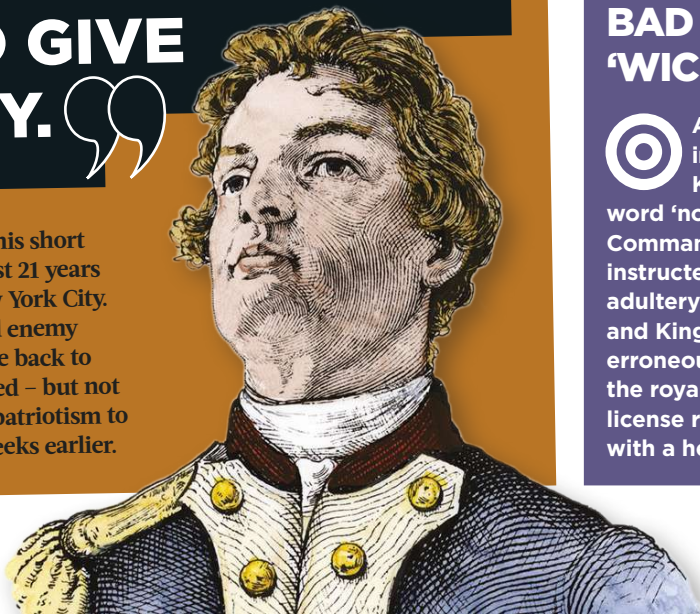
Some 32 pigeons received the award, mostly for successfully delivering messages of crucial importance or in record time, in some cases even when injured. Eighteen dogs were decorated for their work, both on the front lines and in civil defence. The first, a mongrel called Bob, was rewarded in March 1944

"for constant devotion to duty" while serving as a patrol dog with troops in North Africa; another, an Alsatian named Jet, was recognised for "the rescue of persons trapped under blitzed buildings" in London in January 1945. Some found themselves in the thick of battle: Rifleman Khan (another Alsatian) was decorated for rescuing an officer from drowning "under heavy shell fire" during the assault of Walcheren in the Netherlands. In 1947, three police horses received honours for calmly continuing with their duties while assisting with rescue operations in the aftermath of explosions in London between 1940 and 1944. EB


I ONLY REGRET THAT I HAVE BUT ONE LIFE TO GIVE FOR MY COUNTRY.

NATHAN HALE

Teacher, soldier, spy – Nathan Hale packed a lot into his short life. Born in Coventry, Connecticut in 1755, he was just 21 years old when he volunteered to spy on the British in New York City. Disguised as a Dutch schoolmaster, he set out behind enemy lines to gather intelligence, but was captured en route back to Washington's troops. On 22 September, he was hanged – but not before uttering the famous lines encapsulating true patriotism to a country that had declared its independence just weeks earlier.



WHAT WAS SO BAD ABOUT THE 'WICKED BIBLE'?

 A typographical error in a 1631 reprint of the King James Bible lost the word 'not' from one of the Ten Commandments, so readers were instructed: 'Thou shalt commit adultery' – enraging the church and King Charles I. Copies of the erroneous tome were burned; the royal printers, who had their license revoked, were also hit with a heavy fine. EB

IN A NUTSHELL

THE HOLY ROMAN EMPIRE

From the cold ashes of the great empire of Rome rose a realm that became the most powerful on the continent – and a precursor to the European Union

What was it?
The Holy Roman Empire was a notional realm in central Europe, which lasted for around 1,000 years, until 1806. Its name, however, is rather misleading: the French philosopher Voltaire once decried it as “neither holy, nor Roman, nor an empire”.

So why did it have that name?

It was not until 1254 that the title of Holy Roman Empire was applied, but the origins of the name date back to AD 800, more than 300 years after the western half of the Roman Empire had collapsed. The Pope at that time, Leo III, was forced to flee Rome and, in desperation, he turned for help to Charlemagne, the powerful King of the Franks, who then ruled what is now roughly France and Germany. Charlemagne came to Leo's aid. In AD 800, the grateful Pope crowned him as Roman Emperor as a gift.

How did the Empire develop after that?

After Charlemagne's death in AD 814, his squabbling heirs broke up the Empire and the title of Roman Emperor became fairly meaningless for

over a century. It was revived by Otto I, 'King of the Eastern Franks' (who ruled an area roughly equating to modern-day Germany), who had himself been crowned by Pope John XII in AD 962. As with Charlemagne, Otto was crowned as a reward for having helped Pope John deal with his enemies in Italy. From that point, the Empire was chiefly centred on Germany, though it retained lands in Italy and elsewhere in central Europe.

What relationship did these latter Roman Emperors have with the Popes?

The Empire, having been created and reinforced by the papacy at times of trouble, enjoyed a complex and frequently difficult relationship with the bishops of Rome. The years after Otto's reign were a high point for the Empire – at that time the most powerful in Europe – and a low one for the

papacy. A series of Roman Emperors took their title seriously and sought to dominate the Popes, even deposing those they didn't approve of. By the mid-11th century, however, the papacy was recovering and gaining power. In 1075, a lengthy battle for dominance between the Popes and Emperors, known as the Investiture Conflict, began.

The death in 1250 of Emperor Frederick II, following a failed campaign in Italy, marked the final defeat of the Empire in this clash. From then on, the link between the Popes and Emperors was largely broken. Though the Empire kept its title, it was greatly weakened, particularly as it took 23 years to settle the decision of who should succeed Frederick – the most extraordinary, intelligent and ambitious of the Emperors. No longer seeking European domination, the Empire settled into a loose confederation of mainly German states, with the Emperor often marginalised.

How did the Empire come to an end?

It was the French ruler Napoleon Bonaparte who oversaw the events that brought about the end of the Holy Roman Empire. Having declared himself heir to Charlemagne, Bonaparte aimed

to add German lands to his growing empire. Seeing the writing on the wall, the last Holy Roman Emperor, Francis II, disbanded his realm in 1806.

How was the Empire able to survive for so long?

Perhaps because it wasn't very powerful. It eventually came to comprise hundreds of territories, each of which enjoyed plenty of autonomy. For the rulers of many of these lands, the Empire offered a welcome alternative to a dominant or even tyrannical central power. Moreover, until the 19th century, concepts of nationalism were far less prevalent than they would go on to become, so there was little drive to unify the various German territories into one nation state.

What was the legacy of the Holy Roman Empire?

When the German territories were unified as one country in 1871, it became known as the *Reich* ('empire' or 'realm'). From 1933 to 1945, the Nazis sought to continue the Empire's legacy by presiding over the Third Reich, which Hitler claimed would last 1,000 years. More recently, the idea of the later Holy Roman Empire has been reflected in the European Union where, once again, a group of disparate countries has been brought together under a loose umbrella.

CROWNING GLORY

Charlemagne earned himself the title of Roman Emperor by backing Pope Leo III



CROWNING GLORY
This octagonal crown of the Holy Roman Empire was possibly made during Otto's reign



HOW DID THEY DO THAT?

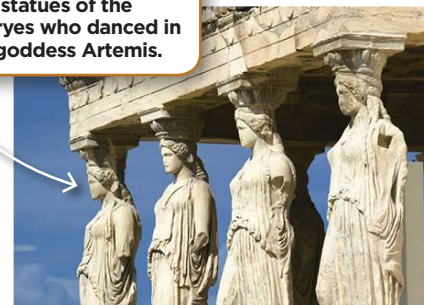
ACROPOLIS

Athens' greatest monument is a symbol of civilisation

ACROPOLIS translates as 'topmost city': a citadel on a high place. But the Acropolis of Athens, which largely dates back to the fifth century BC when Pericles was leader of the city, is more than merely a collection of old buildings on a craggy outcrop. This depiction, recreating the sacred precinct in its heyday, shows why it is described by UNESCO as "the site of four of the greatest masterpieces of classical Greek art... symbolising the idea of world heritage".

PORCH OF THE CARYATIDS

The roof of the Erechtheion's south porch is supported by six Caryatids – statues of the maidens of Karyes who danced in honour of the goddess Artemis.



ERECHTHEION

This elegant temple, erected 421-406 BC, was named for a mythical king of Athens and housed altars of several cults including those of Poseidon and Athena Polias.

CLASSICAL GREECE

Thebes
Corinth
ATHENS

STATUE OF ATHENA PROMACHOS

Only chunks of the marble base of this 9m-high bronze statue remain. It was sculpted by Phidias around 456 BC and displayed spoils from the victory over the Persians at Marathon.

IONIC COLUMNS

THE FRIEZE

An epic frieze – a marble relief depicting a mass procession – extended 160m around the *cella* (walled inner structure). Most of the surviving 130m is in the British Museum in London.

PROPYLAEA

This monumental marble gateway – the main entrance to the Acropolis – was built 437-432 BC.

BEULÉ GATE

Named after a 19th-century French archaeologist, this narrow defensive entrance was added around AD 280.

TEMPLE OF ATHENA NIKE

Built 426-421 BC after the destruction of an earlier wooden temple in 480 BC, this later Ionic structure was also demolished by the Turks in 1686 and its stone used for building. It was rebuilt in 1835.



33.6m

PARTHENON

Like most monuments here, this Doric temple, built 447-432 BC, replaced an earlier structure destroyed by the Persians in 480 BC. Later converted to a church, then a mosque, it was wrecked by Venetian bombardment in 1687.



SANCTUARY OF ZEUS

Nothing now remains of this open-air structure, built around 500 BC and devoted to the city's protector deity. It may have housed sacrificial oxen.

SANCTUARY OF PANDION

The foundations of this structure were discovered in the 19th century. It's believed to have been dedicated to a legendary King of Athens.

STATUE OF ATHENA PARTHENOS

A colossal gold-and-ivory statue of the city's patron goddess carrying Nike (Victory), designed by the great sculptor and architect Phidias, dominated the centre of the Parthenon.



Replica of Phidias' original statue

DORIC COLUMNS

75m

THE COLUMNS

The Greeks developed three systems of architecture called orders, each characterised by a style of column as shown below. The third order, Corinthian, was rarely used in classical Greek architecture but was widely implemented in Roman temples.

DORIC

Eg Parthenon; popular from eighth to fifth century BC

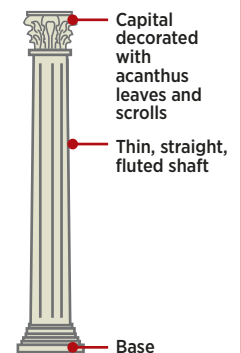
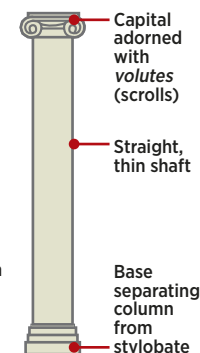
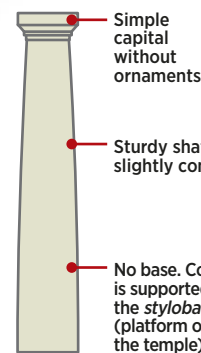
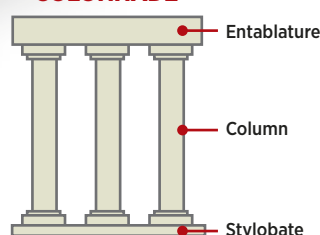
IONIC

Eg Erechtheion; emerged in sixth century BC

CORINTHIAN

Introduced late fifth century BC

COLONNADE



CHALKOTHEKE

This long building abutting the southern outer wall of the Acropolis housed the metal votive offerings (weapons, vessels, statuettes) considered to belong to Athena.

WHY DO WE SAY...

ACHILLES
HEEL

It's curious that we compare a human failing to a part of the anatomy that is, paradoxically, very strong. So why is the tendon connecting our calf muscles with our heel bone named after the mighty hero of Greek myth – and why is it used as a metaphor for a weakness or shortcoming?

According to legend, Achilles was the son of the sea nymph Thetis and Peleus, king of the renowned warriors known as Myrmidons. Raised by the centaur Chiron, Achilles grew up to become the greatest warrior in the world, famed for his exploits during the Trojan War, in part described by Homer in his epic poem the *Iliad*.

However, Achilles' most famous attribute was first mentioned in a text from the first century AD: his invulnerability to injury – except for his heel. According to this tale, his mother, Thetis, attempted to ensure his immortality by dipping the infant Achilles in the River Styx – but his heel, where she held him, was left untouched by the magic water. So it was that, during the Trojan War, he was killed by an arrow shot into his heel by the Trojan prince Paris, whose elopement with the beautiful (and married) Helen sparked the war with the Greeks.

Common today, the metaphor was first used as recently as 1840, though Samuel Taylor Coleridge coined a similar phrase in 1810 when describing "Ireland, that vulnerable heel of the British Achilles!"

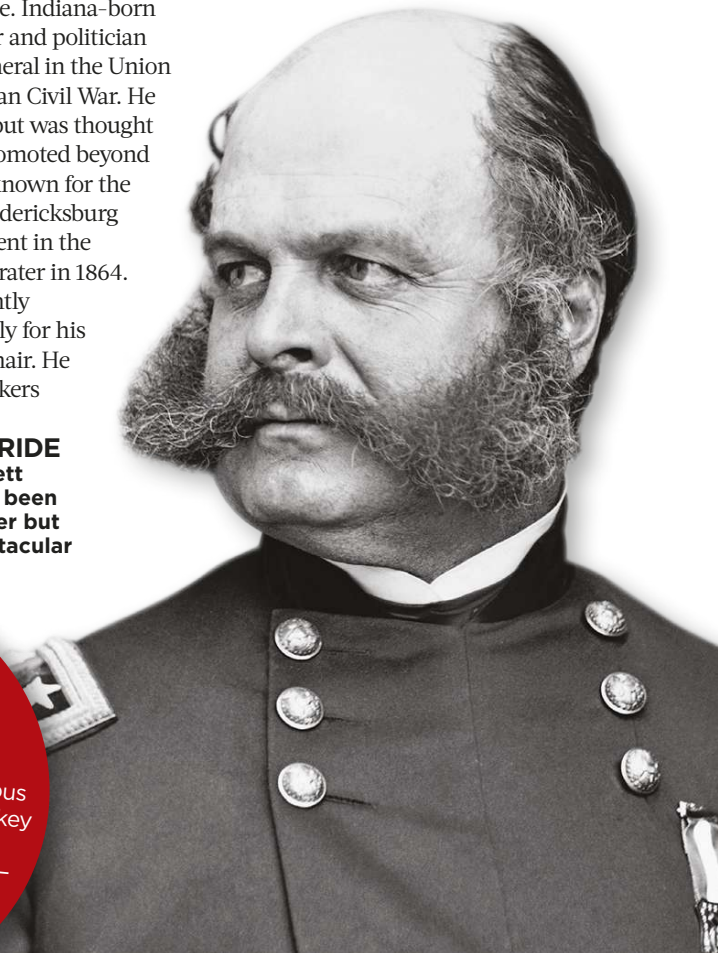
Why are whiskers on men's jowls called 'sideburns'?

Sideburns have been cultivated for centuries – Alexander the Great is shown with them in a Pompeii mosaic – but their modern name is a tribute to the splendidly bewhiskered Ambrose Everett Burnside. Indiana-born Burnside was an inventor and politician who became a senior general in the Union Army during the American Civil War. He enjoyed some successes but was thought by many to have been promoted beyond his abilities, and is best-known for the catastrophic defeat at Fredericksburg in 1862 and his involvement in the shambolic Battle of the Crater in 1864.

Burnside was an instantly recognisable figure, mostly for his distinctive style of facial hair. He grew luxuriant side whiskers

joined to a moustache, but kept a clean-shaven chin. Such whiskers were soon dubbed 'burnsides' after the general, and at some point the name was reversed to give us today's word 'sideburns'. JH

BRISTLING WITH PRIDE
General Ambrose Everett Burnside may not have been the greatest army leader but his facial hair was spectacular

DID YOU
KNOW?

PAIN OF THE ASS

According to one account, the third-century Stoic Chrysippus was tickled by the sight of a donkey eating figs, and proposed that the animal be given some wine – upon which he fell into a fit of laughter so hearty and prolonged that he died.

WHAT DOES CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS HAVE TO DO WITH INDIAN CURRY?

New archaeological research proves that Indian curry dates back thousands of years to the Bronze Age. However, such dishes were not eye-wateringly spicy – indeed, red-hot chilli peppers arrived much later. In 1492, the Genoese navigator Christopher Columbus set off in search of a short route to the exotic Indies, the source of pepper, which, since Roman times, had been known as 'black gold'. On his return to the

Spanish court, he presented plants that he claimed were pepper, but which were called *aji* or *chilli* by the native Americans. Soon, European merchants – particularly Portuguese traders – began spreading mislabelled 'chilli peppers' throughout Eurasia, where they were quickly adopted into local cuisine. In fact, by the time the British arrived in India, they were convinced the fiery chilli pepper was native to the subcontinent. GJ

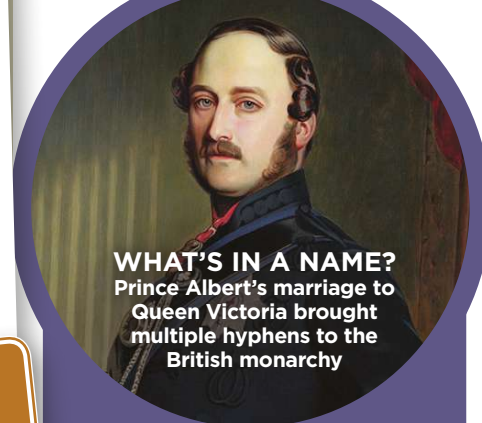


COLD COMFORT
The Frost Fair of 1683-4 featured horse racing, bear-baiting and puppet shows on the frozen Thames. It was described as a "carnival on the water"



183

The number of Axis divisions that invaded Russia in 1941.



WHAT'S IN A NAME?
Prince Albert's marriage to Queen Victoria brought multiple hyphens to the British monarchy

WHO WERE THE SAXE-COBURG-GOTHAS?



Until the 1870s, the realm we now call Germany comprised dozens of mini-states. In Saxony, the lands of dead nobles were split between brothers, rather than simply being inherited by the firstborn. Resulting territories included the large Grand Duchy of Saxe-Weimar-Eisenach plus smaller duchies of Saxe-Gotha-Altenburg, Saxe-Meiningen, Saxe-Hildburghausen and Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld.

Prince Albert, the most famous member of the House of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, was born a Saxe-Coburg-Saalfeld. His great-uncle's death in 1825 led to a baffling swapping of lands, creating four large Saxon states. When Gotha-Altenburg became an extinct line, Gotha was exchanged for Saalfeld. So when Prince Albert married Queen Victoria in 1840, Saxe-Coburg-Gotha became the house of the British monarchy. GJ

Did the Thames really used to **freeze over**?



Yes. Indeed, the Thames froze at London at least 23 times between 1408 and 1814, though several of these events lasted only a few days. The freezing of the river in London, where ice is now rarely seen, was caused by three factors. First, the climate in Britain was on average about 1°C colder between about 1400 and 1800 than before or since. Second, the Thames was then

wider and shallower than it is today, as it is now restricted between solid embankments. Finally, the numerous narrow arches of the medieval London Bridge partially blocked the water on the upstream side, reducing the flow. During the big chill of 1683-4, the Thames froze for two months, with ice some 28cm thick, which provided a stage for the most famous of the London Frost Fairs. RM

WHAT IS IT?



This egg-cellent item, recently acquired by the National Army Museum, demonstrates the thriving commercial trade that often accompanied soldiers deployed across the world. It is a lavishly decorated ostrich egg, engraved on one side with the words 'A Souvenir of South Africa', and decorated with the colours and battle honours of the 10th (Prince of Wales's Own Royal) Hussars, who fought in the Second Anglo-Boer War (1899-1902). Such a souvenir may have been made by an enterprising local merchant, possibly as requested by a soldier with the regiment. The collection of souvenirs from theatres of war would soon be replicated on an enormous scale with the mass mobilisation and global deployment of the British population in World War I. www.nam.ac.uk

IT'S NO YOLK

Troops serving overseas took great pride in their regiments, and souvenirs were often produced using materials at hand locally



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Wondering about a particular historical happening? Don't rack your brains – our expert panel has the answer, so get in touch



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ALEXANDER SELKIRK: THE REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE

It's an extraordinary tale, that of a hot-headed Scottish streetfighter, sailor and buccaneer who found temporary solace on a desert island and inadvertently became the muse for the world's most famous fictional castaway. **Pat Kinsella** reveals the man behind the myth

ART ARCHIVE XI, BRIDGEMAN IMAGES XI



SOLITARY CONFINEMENT

Raising a defiant fist, Captain Thomas Stradling leaves the island of Más a Tierra, seemingly abandoning the volatile Selkirk forever

“Solitude and retirement from the world is not such an insufferable state of life as most men imagine”

Captain Woodes Rogers



GREAT ADVENTURES ALEXANDER SELKIRK

Young Alexander Selcraig was a renowned ne'er-do-well - yet he would become the most celebrated son of the small Scottish fishing village of Lower Largo, Fife. For reasons unknown, his surname changed to Selkirk, but the most famous chapter of his incredibly storied life will always be associated with a completely different moniker: Robinson Crusoe.

In truth, though, the adventures of the real man were much more dramatic than those dreamed up by Defoe for the principal character in his famous novel, and most of the action took place before and after his time in solitude.

Born in 1676, the seventh son of a cobbler and tanner, Selcraig was several times hauled in front of the kirk (church) authorities who bossed the strictly Presbyterian village of Lower Largo - once for beating up several members of his immediate family when they laughed at him for accidentally drinking saltwater.

Perhaps it was to escape his ruffian past that he changed his name, but the roustabout found his calling when he began life on the high seas. In his late 20s, Selkirk, as he was by then known, joined the crew of a buccaneering expedition to the South Seas led by English privateer William Dampier, sailing from Kinsale in Ireland in 1703.

The War of the Spanish Succession was raging between the major European powers and Dampier's two ships carried letters of marque from the Lord High Admiral, authorising them to attack vessels flying the flags of England's enemies and to seize their cargo. This paperwork marked the sole difference between privateers and pirates.

Dampier captained the *St George*, while Selkirk - by now an experienced sailor - served as sailing master on the *Cinque Ports* under Captain Charles Pickering. Travelling around 50 miles a day, the ships passed Madeira and the Cape Verde Islands before striking out across the Atlantic to Brazil.

DISEASE AND DEATH

Conditions on board were dire. The food was terrible, the ships were cramped and the men suffered horribly from scurvy and fever, which claimed Pickering's life. He was succeeded by his unpopular young lieutenant, the 21-year-old Thomas Stradling.

The expedition teetered on the edge of mutiny many times but, by February 1704, both ships had survived a tempestuous rounding of Cape Horn and were heading up the coast of Chile. Here they engaged in a fierce battle with a heavily armed French ship, the *St Joseph*, but she escaped and warned the Spanish of their presence in the Pacific.

Storms separated the two English ships for a period and they were united just in time for Dampier to quell a revolt on the *Cinque Ports*. Both captains subsequently faced down rebellions. Stradling's arrogant demeanour angered those working under him, while

THE MAIN PLAYERS



ALEXANDER SELKIRK / SEL CRAIG

Scottish seafarer, privateer, castaway, global circumnavigator and principle inspiration for Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe*.



WILLIAM DAMPIER

Sea captain, privateer, explorer and botanist. Led the expedition that took Selkirk to the South Seas and identified the castaway when he was rescued.



WOODES ROGERS

English sea captain, privateer and, later, renowned pirate hunter. Led the expedition that rescued Selkirk.

THOMAS STRADLING

Privateer and captain of the *Cinque Ports*, who left the outspoken Selkirk marooned on Más a Tierra Island.

DANIEL DEFOE

Prolific writer, author of *Robinson Crusoe*, widely considered the first novel written in English. Met Woodes Rogers.

WILL

Indian of the Miskito tribe who spent three years as a castaway on Más a Tierra prior to Selkirk.

NO MAN IS AN ISLAND

RIGHT: Selkirk became a spiritual man while marooned, seeking solace in the Bible

FAR RIGHT: The Chilean government renamed Más a Tierra as Robinson Crusoe Island in 1966

MAIN: Selkirk became adept at hunting the island's goats, preferring to catch them by hand rather than using his musket

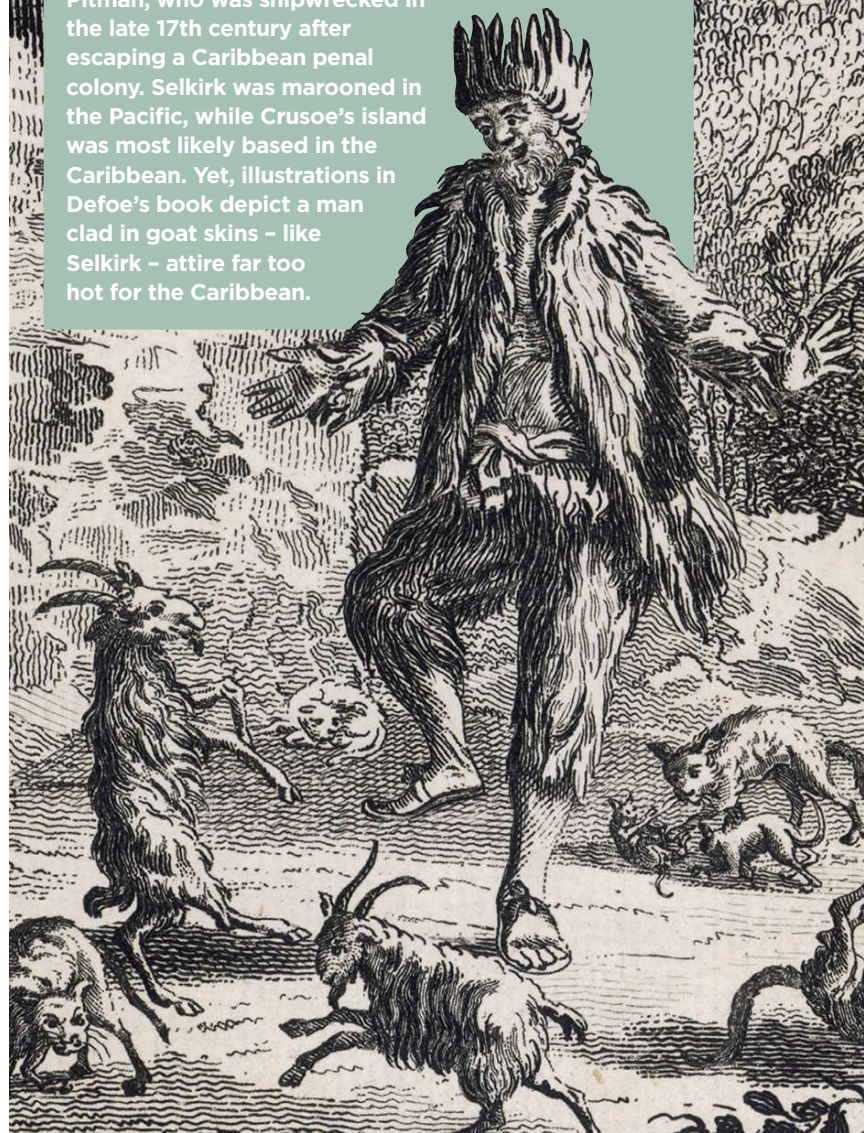
INSET: Selkirk's few worldly possessions were placed in this wooden sea-chest when he was abandoned by Captain Stradling



WHO WAS THE REAL ROBINSON CRUSOE?

Alexander Selkirk's misadventures provided the inspiration for Daniel Defoe's *Robinson Crusoe* (1719). At least, that's the accepted wisdom. It's certainly possible Defoe had heard Selkirk's story as accounts were written by Woodes Rogers (who Defoe met) and Richard Steele (Defoe's friend) in 1712 and 1713, respectively. However, despite claims Defoe met Selkirk - in Bristol's old Llandoger Trow pub, according to legend - there's no evidence to back this up. In fact, Defoe may have based his hero on a number of castaways.

Mooted sources include Robert Knox's 1681 account of his abduction by the King of Ceylon, and a 12th-century work by Moorish philosopher Ibn Tufail. Another intriguing possibility is the tale of Dr Henry Pitman, who was shipwrecked in the late 17th century after escaping a Caribbean penal colony. Selkirk was marooned in the Pacific, while Crusoe's island was most likely based in the Caribbean. Yet, illustrations in Defoe's book depict a man clad in goat skins - like Selkirk - attire far too hot for the Caribbean.





**“The astonished
sailors were
greeted by
a half-crazed,
hairy Selkirk clad
in a goatskin”**

Dampier was reportedly too fond of the bottle and too willing to let foreign ships escape before his men could get their desired share of treasure.

After a failed raid on Santa María, a gold-mining town on the Gulf of Panama, the expedition finally met with success when they captured the cargo-laden *Asunción*. Selkirk was briefly placed in command of the prize but, after relieving it of wine, brandy, sugar and flour, Dampier suddenly decided to let the ship go.

Stradling and Dampier fell out when the younger man accused the expedition leader of being a drunk and a coward; in May 1704, the *Cinque Ports* split from the *St George* and spent the summer months hunting prey alone.

The *Cinque Ports* was in a terrible condition, however, with her rotten and worm-riddled boards letting in so much water that the crew were bailing night and day. In September, she limped into the remote and uninhabited Juan Fernández archipelago, 420 miles off the coast of Chile, and dropped anchor.

JUMPING SHIP

On the deserted island of Más a Tierra, the *Cinque Ports* was restocked, but not repaired. As Stradling issued the order to depart, Selkirk stated he'd rather stay on the island than sail in a ship that wasn't seaworthy.

Stradling took the outspoken sailor at his word and, permitting him to keep a few personal items, left the Scotsman stranded on the sand. If Selkirk was bluffing, his ploy had failed spectacularly. Regretting his impetuous outburst, he pleaded with the captain to let him back on board, but Stradling refused and sailed away.

It would be more than four years before Selkirk would see another friendly human face, but his seemingly rash decision was eventually vindicated. A short time later the *Cinque Ports* sank off the island of Malpelo, 250 miles from the coast of modern-day Colombia. All but a handful of the crew were lost and the survivors, including Stradling, were captured

£800

Selkirk's share of the spoils from his post-rescue privateering escapades with Captain Woodes Rogers



GREAT ADVENTURES ALEXANDER SELKIRK

by the Spanish and spent at least four years imprisoned in worse conditions than the man they'd left marooned.

FOUR YEARS OF SOLITUDE

Selkirk was left disconsolate on the beach, staring at his worldly possessions – a knife, hatchet, cooking pot, his navigation tools, some bedding, a musket, pistol, gunpowder, two pounds of tobacco, a hunk of cheese, a few dollops of jam, a flask of rum and a Bible.

He was a resourceful man, however, and after a period of despair – during which he contemplated suicide – Selkirk began to explore his surroundings and make the best of the situation. Initially sticking close to the sea, scouring the horizon for passing ships, he was eventually driven inland by the unbearable noise of elephant seals mating on the beach.

On a strategic spot on a hill, he built two huts, one for sleeping and one for cooking. Rats tormented him initially, but he domesticated feral cats to keep them at bay and provide him with some meagre company.

The island offered plenty of edible fruits and vegetables, and he caught fish and lobsters from the beach. To vary his diet – and to replace deteriorating clothing – he shot goats that roamed the island and used skills learned from his father to fashion the skins into garments. In time, he became so skilled at hunting the goats that he no longer needed to use the musket, chasing them down on foot instead.

Unlike Defoe's *Crusoe*, Selkirk never kept a diary and never met a Man Friday to keep him company. Almost everything that's known about his long and lonely island existence comes from two secondhand accounts, one written by Woodes Rogers, the captain of the ship that eventually picked him up, and the other penned by the Irish writer Richard Steele, who interviewed Selkirk in 1711 for the magazine *The Englishman*.

After accepting his fate, the erstwhile tearaway apparently discovered spirituality. He studied his Bible, chanted psalms and prayers, and took pleasure from observing the island's animals. Selkirk never gave up hope of salvation, however. He maintained a daily vigil from a lofty lookout and kept a fire going at all times.

Two ships did briefly stop at the island, but both were flying the Spanish flag, which promised the kind of rescue the privateer could do without. If captured by Spaniards, he could expect imprisonment – and possibly worse – so he avoided contact. At one point, he was spotted and chased by Spanish sailors and only escaped by climbing high into a tree, which his pursuers proceeded to urinate against, not knowing their prey was in the branches above.

Eventually, however, on 2 February 1709, four years and four months after being marooned,

he spied two English ships: the *Duke*, captained by Woodes Rogers, and the *Duchess*.

As a landing party reached the beach, the astonished sailors were greeted by Selkirk in all his hairy, goatskin-clad glory, half-crazed with excitement and with his powers of speech much affected by years of being alone. Incredibly, his old captain William Dampier was on board the *Duke* as navigator and was able to vouch for Selkirk's identity.

The 'wildman' soon endeared himself to his rescuers, who were suffering from the ravages of months at sea, by catching goats and presenting them with fresh vegetables.

THE LONG WAY BACK

Selkirk had found salvation, but he was not destined for a speedy journey home. Rogers was leading a privateering expedition, similar to the one the Scotsman had been on when he was marooned, and they had plenty of plundering left to do.

It didn't take long for old privateering habits to resurface through the skin of spirituality that Selkirk had sprouted during his solitary sojourn on the island.

Impressed by his new crewman's vigour and skill, Rogers made

Selkirk the *Duke's* second mate, before putting him in command of the *Increase*, a ship captured from the Spanish, which was eventually ransomed back.

Selkirk later led an infamous boat raid up the Guayas River at Guayaquil in modern-day Ecuador, where concealed jewels were taken from the clothing of wealthy Spanish women, and played an influential role in the capture of the *Nuestra Señora de la Encarnación y Desengaño* off the coast of Mexico. As sailing master on this prize, renamed the *Batchelor*, he voyaged through the East Indies.

Rounding the Cape of Good Hope as sailing master on the *Duke*, Selkirk's eight-year circumnavigation of the globe was completed on 14 October 1711, when he sailed up the Thames and finally landed back on British soil – where celebrity, if not happiness, lay waiting. 📍

7,500

The distance in miles on a signpost in Selkirk's birthplace, Lower Largo, pointing towards 'Juan Fernandez Island' – or Más a Tierra.

GET HOOKED

TRAVEL

Visit Más a Tierra. Renamed Robinson Crusoe Island, it's now inhabited by a small community and welcomes tourists.



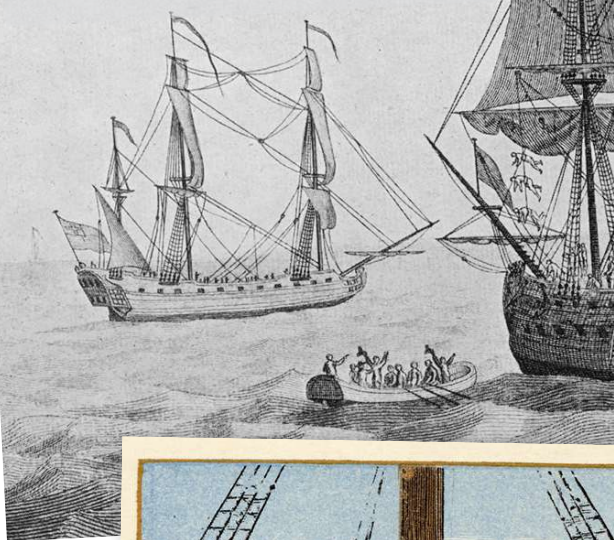
WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Do you think that Captain Stradling was justified in abandoning Alexander Selkirk to an unknown fate?

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

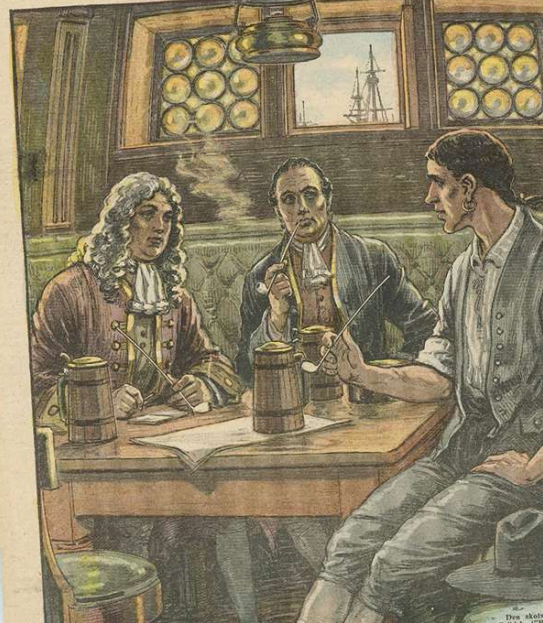
RESCUE MISSION

THIS PIC: After nearly four-and-a-half years alone, the *Duke* was Selkirk's saviour
BELOW: An artist's impression of the moment that the hairy Scotsman first met Woodes Rogers on board the *Duke*
BOTTOM: Back in Britain, Selkirk is imagined recounting his adventures to Daniel Defoe









Nr 46. 18 november 1917.

ALLERS·FAMILJ·JOURN



GEOGRAPHY

Alexander Selkirk spent four years and four months as a castaway on a deserted island known as Más a Tierra in the uninhabited archipelago of Juan Fernández. He wasn't the only person to become marooned there. A few years before the Scotsman's ordeal, a Miskito Indian named Will was abandoned by the English boat on which he'd been serving. Will survived alone for three years before being rescued and is believed to be the inspiration for Man Friday in *Robinson Crusoe*.

-  Outbound route
-  Return route
-  Storm
-  Battle
-  Cinque Ports sinking
-  The Duke

1 11 SEPTEMBER 1703

The privateer ships *St George* and *Cinque Ports* leave Kinsale in Ireland, bound for the South Seas, under the command of Captain William Dampier. Selkirk is aboard the *Cinque Ports*.

3 MAY 1704

Following an unsuccessful raid on Santa María, a gold-mining town on the Gulf of Panama, Dampier and Captain Thomas Stradling fall out. The *Cinque Ports* separates from the *St George*.

6 1709-10

Along with Woodes Rogers, Selkirk takes part in an attack on Guayaquil in present-day Ecuador, leading a raiding party up the Guayas River, as well as capturing the Spanish ship *Nuestra Señora de la Encarnación y Desengaño* off the coast of Mexico.

4 SEPTEMBER 1704

The *Cinque Ports* stops at the Juan Fernández archipelago to resupply. Selkirk is marooned on the island of Más a Tierra after very vocally complaining about the ship's seaworthiness.

2 FEBRUARY 1704

The *St George* and the *Cinque Ports* survive severe storms and successfully sail around Cape Horn.

7 14 OCTOBER 1711

Selkirk arrives back on British soil, passing the Downs off the coast of Kent aboard the *Duke* before travelling up the Thames.

5 2 FEBRUARY 1709

Four years and four months after being marooned, Selkirk is rescued when the twin privateer ships *Duchess* and *Duke*, commanded by Captain Woodes Rogers, arrive at Más a Tierra.

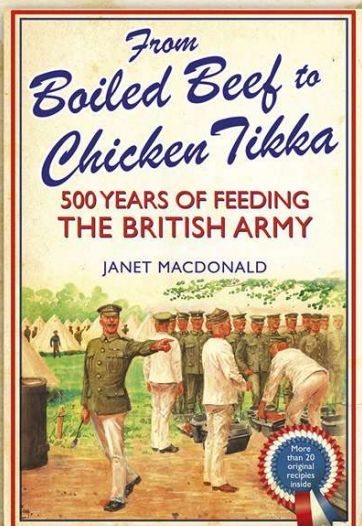
MÁS A TIERRA

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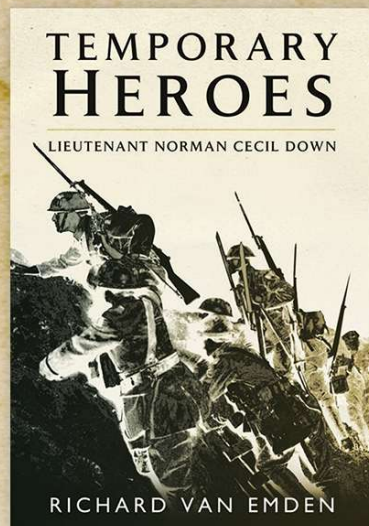


PEN & SWORD

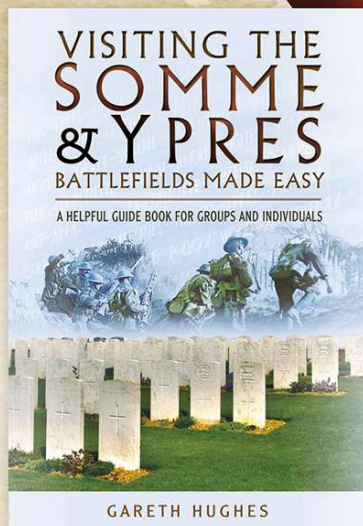
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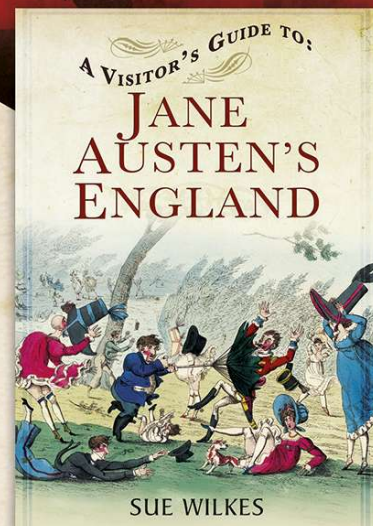
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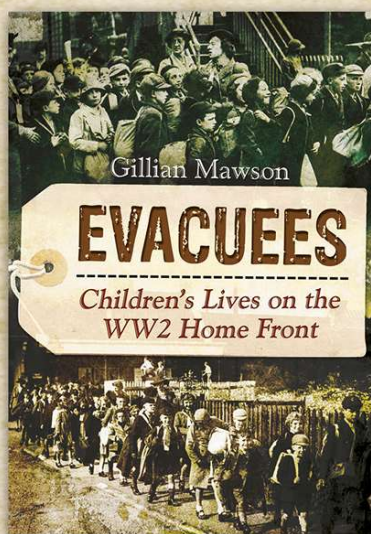
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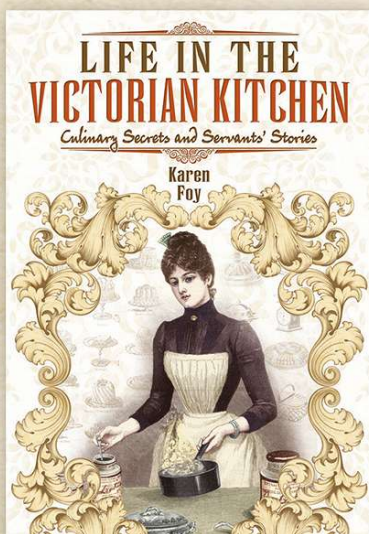
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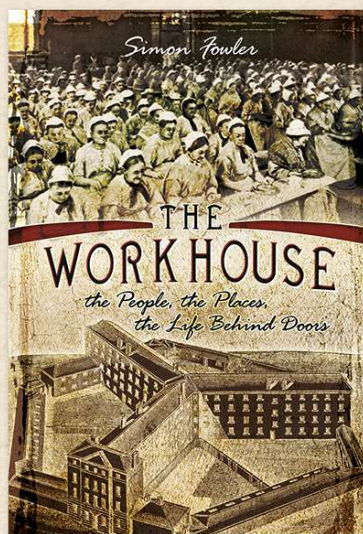
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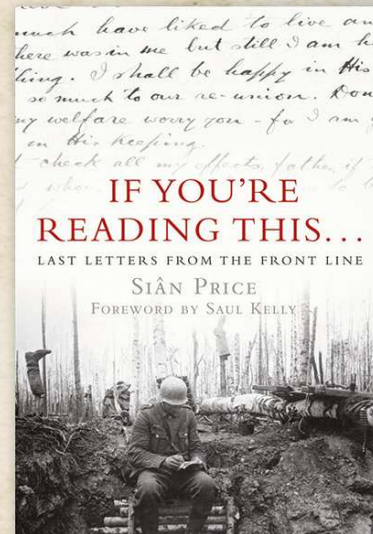
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HONEST ABE
Abraham Lincoln
ranks as one of
the greatest-ever
US presidents

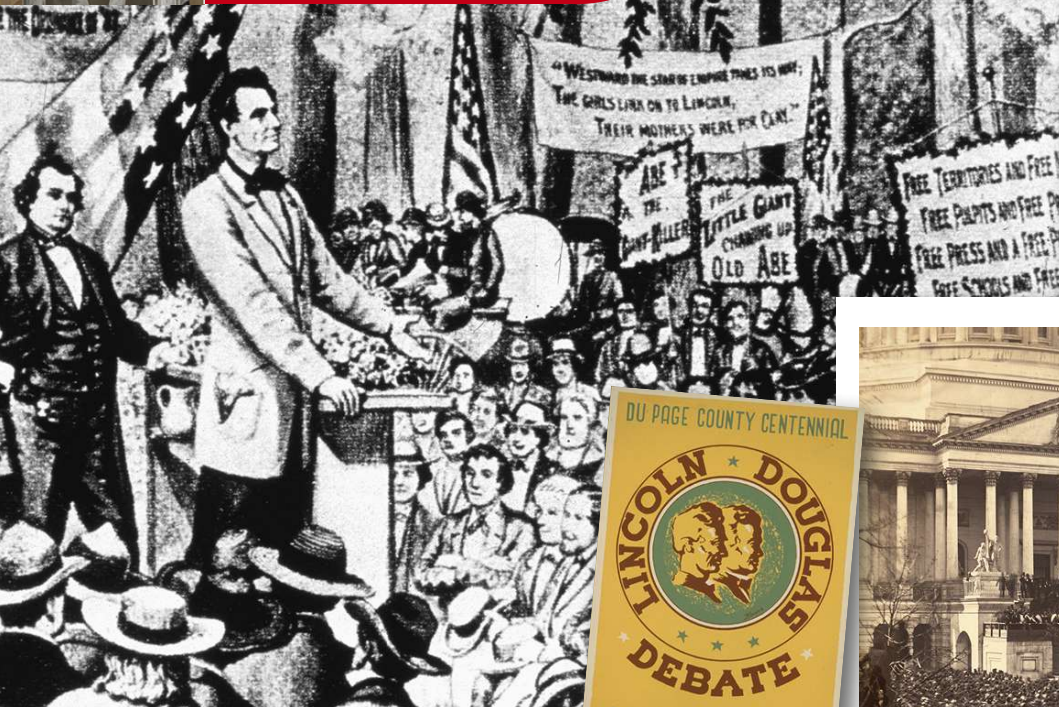
LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

FATHER ABRAHAM

As we mark 150 years since the end of the American Civil War and the death of the great President, **Jonny Wilkes** investigates how Abraham Lincoln – in paying the ultimate sacrifice for his country – became a symbol of hope for all people



THE HISTORY MAKERS ABRAHAM LINCOLN



AUGUST-OCTOBER 1858 DOUGLAS DEBATES

The tall, slim country lawyer Abraham Lincoln faces the incumbent senator for Illinois, the short and stout Stephen Douglas, in an ultimately futile campaign. Across seven intense debates, the two clash over slavery in the new territories of Kansas and Nebraska, with Lincoln's passionate opposition earning him national recognition.

What does Abraham Lincoln mean to us today? In the 150 years since his assassination and the end of the American Civil War, countless images of the 16th President of the United States have been endlessly shaped, discussed and celebrated.

So should we remember him as the great statesman whose actions of freeing the slaves and preserving the union have come to define the US? Is he the eloquent orator whose words and speeches, without the stain of ego or self-interest, continue to inspire? Or is it right to look past his deeds and commend the man – the slightly awkward figure too tall for his time, with a wicked sense of humour, a humble outlook on life and, of course, his signature beard, stovepipe hat and the familiar creases of worry permanently etched into his face?

Lincoln's image has transcended the reality of his mortal life and actions so that he isn't just the great emancipator and saviour of the union, but the very embodiment of democracy, the exemplification of an ideal United States and the supreme martyr.

It was in the crucible of the American Civil War where these immortal reputations were forged. Lincoln spent four gruelling years – the last of his life – driven, almost obsessively, by one goal. The war didn't begin as a moral crusade against the evils of slavery. In Lincoln's eyes, the ultimate aim was always to keep the country united. He was willing to go to extreme measures and pay a heavy price to achieve it, and that unwavering commitment and sacrifice

BARACK OBAMA, 44TH PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES
"In his rise from poverty, his capacity to overcome loss and remain determined in the face of defeat – we see a fundamental element of the American character."



APRIL 1861 THE FIRST SHOTS

On 12 April, Confederate forces fire shells on the besieged Union-held Fort Sumter in South Carolina's Charleston Harbour, after Lincoln announces his intentions to resupply the sea fort. The bombardment fizzles out after 34 hours, with no casualties other than a fort mule, but the incident signals the start of the American Civil War.



NOVEMBER 1860 SPLIT OPINION

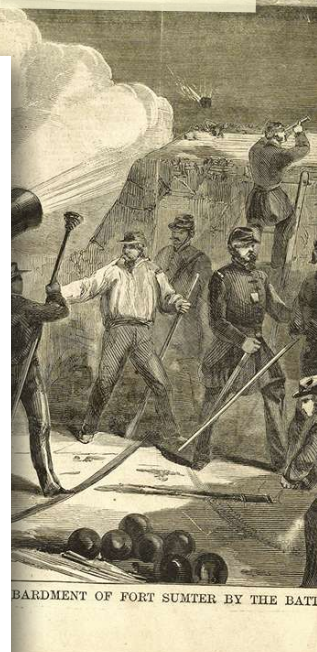
As the Republican Party candidate, Lincoln takes on Douglas again, this time for the presidency. Thanks to his support in the North, which holds far more influence in presidential elections than the South, Lincoln wins comfortably on 6 November. Before he takes office in March 1861, however, seven southern states secede and form the Confederate States of America.

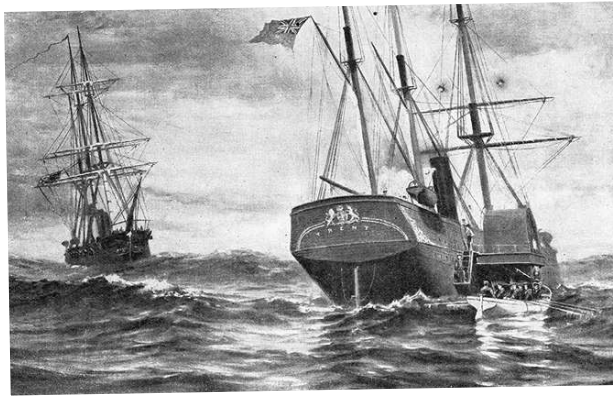
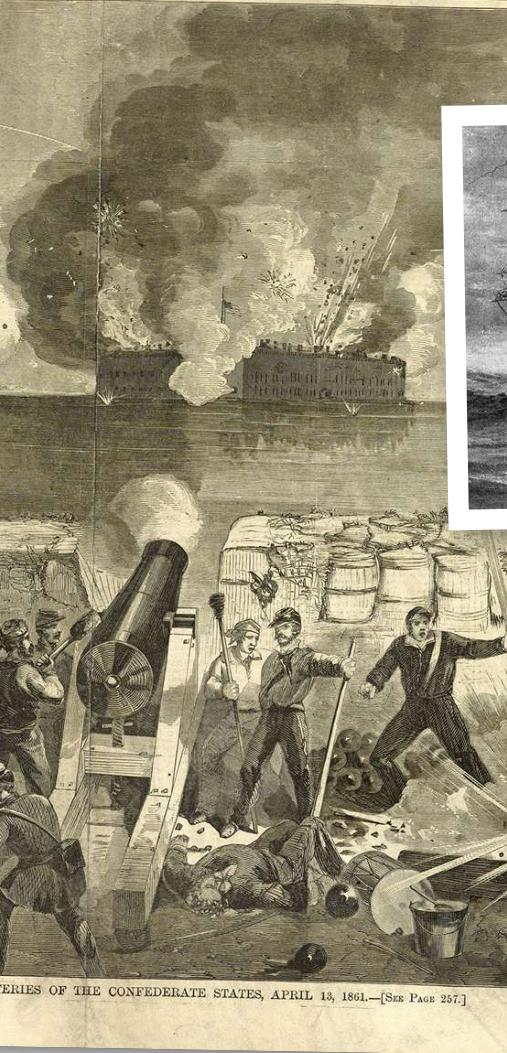
laid the foundations for the global power of the US in the 20th century.

DISUNITED STATES

For years before the war, the country was divided by the issue of slavery. Businessmen and politicians in the South, the cotton-producing hub of the world, were angered by progressive voices from the North, one of which was Lincoln. Although no abolitionist, he was an anti-slavery advocate. As someone who grew up on the frontiers – a tough, meagre existence where everyone worked for themselves – Lincoln was uncomfortable that slavery benefited from the labour of others. It was a pragmatic view that he held for some 20 years spent either as a successful country lawyer in Illinois or as an elected official before rising to national prominence in 1858.

When Illinois Senator Stephen Douglas introduced the Kansas-Nebraska Act in 1854, which allowed the extension of slavery to new territories, Lincoln spoke out against





NOVEMBER 1861 TRENT AFFAIR

When the USS *San Jacinto* intercepts a small British mail ship named RMS *Trent*, two Confederate diplomats are found aboard, on their way to Britain and France to seek financial support for the war effort. Lincoln skillfully averts an international incident by releasing the men, who fail to achieve any support in Europe.

SELF-MADE MAN FROM A LOG CABIN TO THE WHITE HOUSE

As President, Abraham Lincoln was always acutely mindful of the political advantage to be had from his rustic upbringing. He befuddled guests to the White House with quaint anecdotes of life on his father's farm as he built a reputation as a man of the people and a true American who lived and thrived from individual initiative and hard work.

Life was tough for a young Abraham. Born 12 February 1809 in a tiny log cabin in Kentucky, he thoroughly disliked his days spent clearing forests, splitting logs for rail fences (one of his nicknames in later life was 'the rail splitter') and ploughing hard, dusty fields. He also lived under the shadow of disease and death, which was an all-too-common feature of frontier life; he lost his mother at the age of nine and his teenage sister died during childbirth in 1828.

Determined not to have the same life as his father, Lincoln taught himself to read and write. He would devour every book he could get and was able to recount whole chunks of Shakespeare, Milton and the Bible from memory. In the 1830s, he began teaching himself law, until he passed the bar in 1836.

the legislation, most famously declaring that "a house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe the government cannot endure permanently half slave and half free." Lincoln espoused his fervent opposition in his widely circulated debates against Douglas (a masterclass in his oratorical skills), which earned him the presidential nomination for the newly formed Republican Party. This was the last provocation the South was going to stand.

THE SOUTH RISES UP

Between Lincoln's election victory on 6 November 1860 and his inauguration four months later, South Carolina and six other states seceded from the Union and created their own republic, the Confederate States of America. These seven were later joined by four further slave states. The President-elect had three options to deal with this schism – accept it, make sweeping concessions to the South, or refuse to recognise the Confederacy's legitimacy. For Lincoln, division was "the essence of anarchy" and a threat to the free government and liberty on which the US was built. So it came as little surprise when he vowed to "make one vast grave yard of the valley of the Mississippi – yes of the whole South, if I must – to maintain, preserve, and defend the Union and Constitution in all their ancient integrity". And so began the deadliest chapter in US history.

From the opening salvo at Fort Sumter in April 1861 to the surrender of the Confederate forces by General Robert E Lee in April 1865, it's estimated that approximately 750,000 men, women and children died as fierce fighting spread across the country. Initially, the North had believed that one major victory would be all that was needed to knock the stuffing out of the rebellious southerners. They had superior numbers and all the resources to sustain a war in the industrial age, from factories to newspapers.

But in the first major Battle at Bull Run in July 1861, Union forces were humiliated.

**"If I were two-faced,
would I be wearing
this one?"**

Abraham Lincoln

Congressmen and their wives, who had accompanied the army with picnic hampers to enjoy the spectacle, were forced to flee when the ramshackle Union troops retreated.

As battles raged throughout 1862, Lincoln worked to be a powerful commander-in-chief. Other than a stint as captain of a militia in the 1830s, he had little military experience but, much the same way he taught himself to read, write and grasp the basics of law, Lincoln learned military tactics by reading voraciously. He woke before dawn and spent hours in

telegraph offices awaiting news from his officers. Any bad news could send the President into a slump – vulnerable, as he was, to attacks of depression.

The powers of the federal government were expanded, decisions were made without Congress, he suspended the legal precedent of *habeas corpus* – allowing him to arrest suspected Confederate sympathisers – and he introduced a new form of paper currency, the 'greenback', to pay for Union armies.

Arguably his greatest political achievement, though, was in controlling his cabinet. He brought together rivals within the Republican Party, including the brilliant 'conservative' William H Seward as Secretary of State, and the star of the 'radical' faction, Salmon P Chase, as Secretary of the Treasury. Lincoln adroitly juggled his team of rivals, keeping everyone on side and on message.

On 22 September 1862, that message changed. Lincoln announced that if the opposition states had not returned to the Union by 1 January 1863, he would issue a proclamation freeing all the slaves in



FREEDOM TO SLAVES!

Whereas, the President of the United States did, on the first day of the present month, issue his Proclamation declaring "that all persons held as Slaves in certain designated States, and parts of States, are, and henceforward shall be free," and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the Military and Naval authorities thereof, would recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons. And Whereas, the county of Frederick is included in the territory designated by the Proclamation of the President, in which the Slaves should become free, I therefore hereby notify the citizens of the city of Winchester, and of said County, of said Proclamation, and of my intention to maintain and enforce the same.

I expect all citizens to yield a ready compliance with the Proclamation of the Chief Executive, and I admonish all persons disposed to resist its peaceful enforcement, that upon manifesting such disposition by acts, they will be regarded as rebels in arms against the lawful authority of the Federal Government and dealt with accordingly.

All persons liberated by said Proclamation are admonished to abstain from all violence, and immediately betake themselves to useful occupations.

The officers of this command are admonished and ordered to act in accordance with said proclamation and to yield their ready co-operation in its enforcement.

R. H. Milroy,
Brig. Gen'l Commanding.

Winchester Va.
Jan. 5th, 1863.

JANUARY 1863 FREEING THE SLAVES

In a momentous move for Lincoln and the American Civil War, the Emancipation Proclamation is issued on 1 January, freeing all slaves in Confederate-controlled regions. On signing the decree, Lincoln comments that "I never, in my life, felt more certain that I was doing right than I do in signing this paper". A year later, Congress passes the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery and freeing between three and four million black people.

< Confederate territory. He had been waiting to drop the news of the Emancipation Proclamation for months, but Seward had persuaded him to wait until a great Union victory so that it wouldn't look like an act of desperation. It was a savvy move and the victory eventually came at Antietam, one of the largest and bloodiest battles of the war.

A UNITED GOAL

"My paramount object in this struggle is to save the Union and is not either to save or destroy slavery," Lincoln had declared earlier in the conflict. "If I could save the Union without freeing any slave, I would do it." Yet, the Emancipation Proclamation drastically changed the North's position in the war, so that preserving the Union and freeing the slaves were now the same goal. From that point on,



NOVEMBER 1863 "FOUR SCORE AND SEVEN YEARS AGO..."

In just 272 words, Lincoln delivers his Gettysburg Address – one of the most symbolically important speeches in history – on 19 November, some four months after a Union victory at the bloody Battle of Gettysburg. The speech was heard by only a few thousand people, but was printed and distributed worldwide, offering a vision of a reunited country, a place of liberty and equality.

one couldn't be achieved without the other. That was the sentiment of Lincoln's iconic Gettysburg Address, where the President promised: "We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom – and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the Earth."

There was also a practical benefit for Lincoln; 200,000 freed slaves joined the Union army to fight for the 'Great Emancipator', a significant factor in swaying the momentum from South to North. In April 1864, Lincoln's all-or-nothing commitment to saving the Union through emancipation bore more fruit as he cajoled Congress into passing the 13th Amendment, abolishing slavery throughout the land.

By then, Lincoln also had the general he desperately wanted for the Union armies. Men such as George McClellan, Ambrose Burnside, Joseph Hooker and George Gordon Meade had all failed to implement the war Lincoln desired – a relentless attack that would stretch the Confederate forces and not let up until the job was done. But Ulysses S Grant impressed

the President and was given overall command in early 1864. It was Grant who accepted the Confederate surrender on 9 April 1865. But, even though the end of the horrific, costly war was finally in sight with the Union secured, Lincoln's work was far from done.

His second presidential election victory assured him that he was the man not just to save the Union from the brink, but to rebuild it, bigger and better. It was not to be. Having tasted peace in his still-united country for only five days, Lincoln was shot and killed by a fanatically loyal supporter of the South, John Wilkes Booth, while at the theatre. As the country mourned, sermons across the US preached of how Lincoln made the same sacrifice as Jesus Christ – dying for the absolution of the sins. Lincoln's body travelled from Washington DC to Illinois by train. Millions flocked to the rail tracks to watch it pass, weeping for the loss of 'Father Abraham'.

So, what does Abraham Lincoln mean to people today? Whether peering up at the Lincoln Memorial or at Mount Rushmore, or staring into the powerfully melancholic eyes of his photograph, it is easy to feel that here is a man who is now so much more than a man. Like the freed slaves who worshipped his name, many see Lincoln as an incorruptible symbol – a beacon for humankind. 🕯

STEVEN SPIELBERG,
DIRECTOR OF *LINCOLN* (2012)
"The two great things he did, to end slavery and the Civil War, were for the good and in the name of the people. He put people ahead of politics."



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

To what extent was Lincoln's anti-slavery stance motivated by moral principles?

email: editor@historyrevealed.com

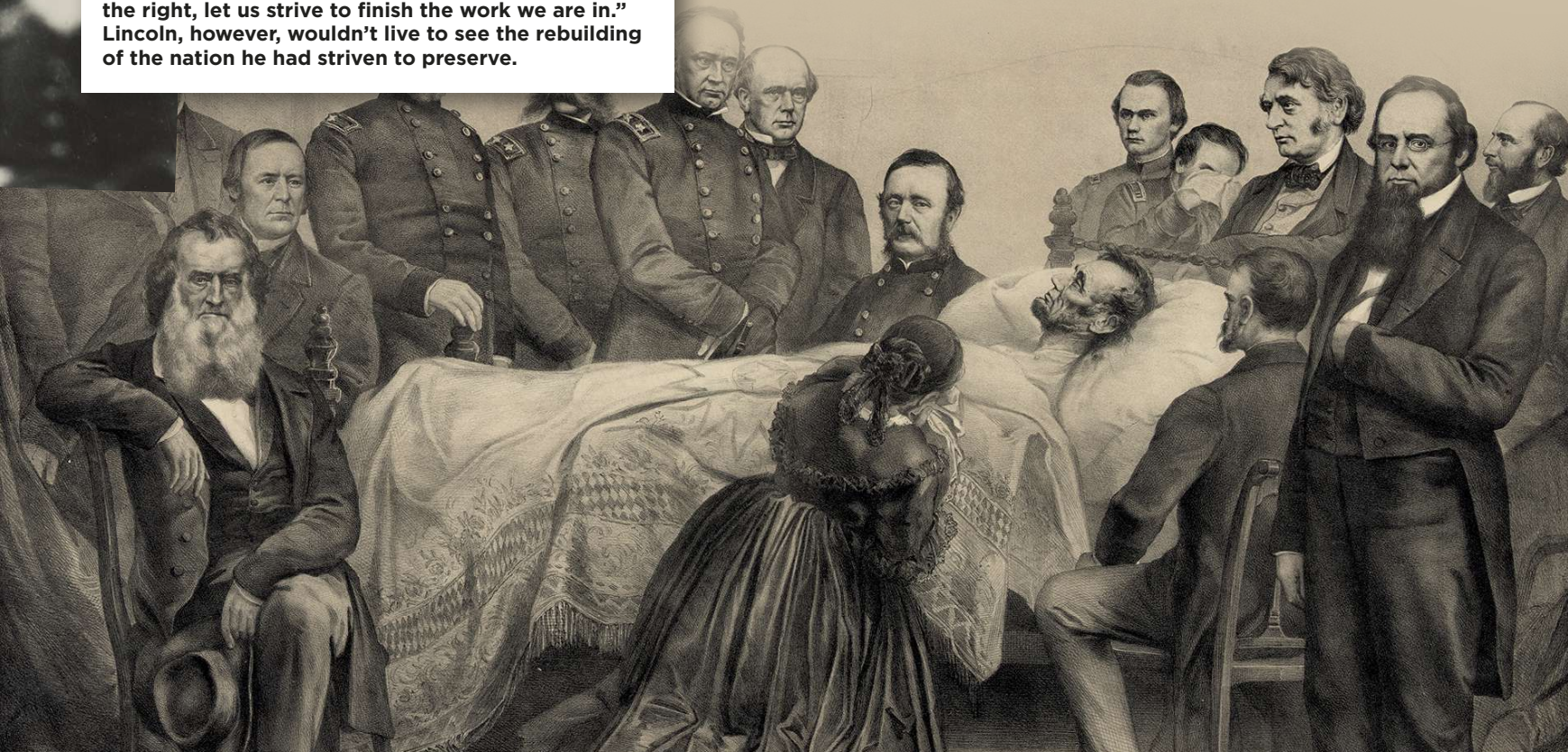


MARCH 1865 REBUILDING THE COUNTRY

Having swept to a landslide re-election, Lincoln allows himself to look beyond the war and consider the reconstruction of the United States. His second inaugural address, a poetic powerhouse, declares: "With malice towards none, with charity for all, with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive to finish the work we are in." Lincoln, however, wouldn't live to see the rebuilding of the nation he had striven to preserve.

"We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain – that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

Abraham Lincoln, the Gettysburg Address



A NATION'S MARTYR "NOW HE BELONGS TO THE AGES"

When Lincoln woke on 14 April 1865, he was in an unusually good mood. The war was over. Robert E Lee, commander of the Confederate Army, had surrendered at Appomattox five days earlier so, for the first time in four years, the burden of bloodshed and civil war wasn't pressing down on Lincoln's shoulders.

That evening, he went with his wife Mary to Ford's Theater in Washington DC to see the comedy *Our American Cousin*. Arriving

late, the performance was halted while the President took his seat in the state box to the sounds of the orchestra playing *Hail to the Chief* and a standing ovation. Lurking in the shadows, however, was Confederate sympathiser John Wilkes Booth, who had long planned to assassinate Lincoln. He crept up behind the President and fired a single bullet at point blank range into the back of his head. Booth leapt from the balcony, breaking his leg, before shouting

the Virginia state motto *Sic Semper Tyrannis* ('thus always to tyrants') and escaping – he remained on the run for 12 days before being found and killed.

Lincoln, still alive but unconscious, was taken across the street to Petersen House, where he died nine hours later. Among those at the President's bedside was Secretary of War Edwin Stanton, who is reported to have saluted and remarked, "Now he belongs to the ages".



GREATEST PRESIDENTS

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

As well as Lincoln, 42 other men have taken office as President of the United States. But which of them would be in contention for the title as the greatest commander-in-chief? In no particular order, here's our shortlist...

GEORGE WASHINGTON

Nicknames: **the Father of his Country; the American Fabius**
In office: **1789-97**

PRESIDENT
NUMBER

1

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

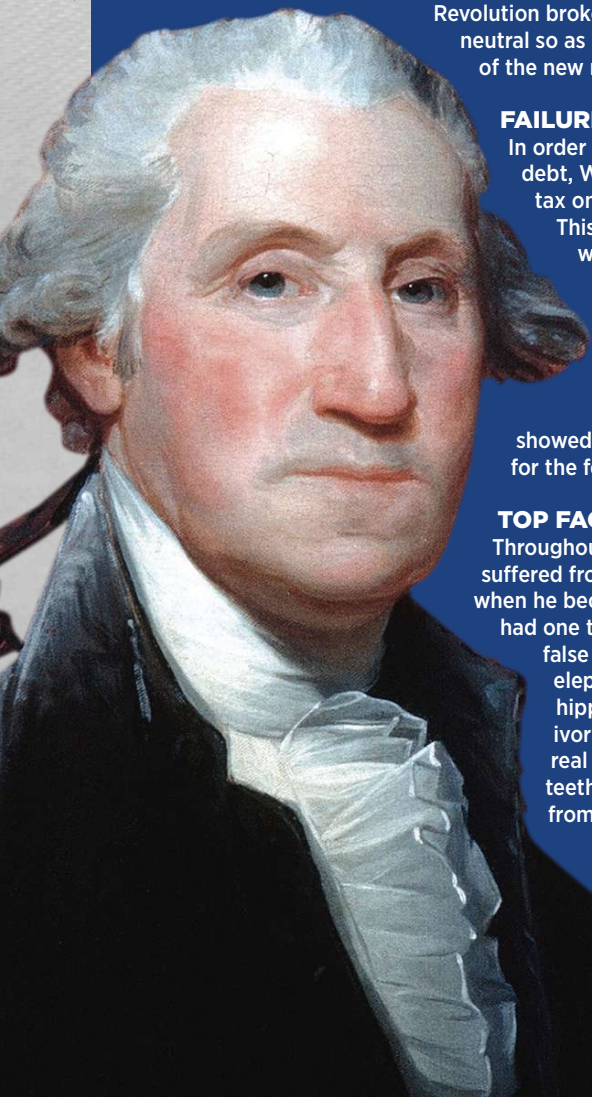
Having led the armies that defeated the British in the American Revolutionary War, George Washington was unanimously elected as the first President of the United States, and he went about establishing the country as an international power. He passed laws that created its first banks, as well as the dollar as the official currency, and founding the nation's capital. Having instituted a navy, he demonstrated a wise head in foreign affairs; when the French Revolution broke out, he kept the US neutral so as not to risk the status of the new nation.

FAILURES:

In order to reduce the national debt, Washington imposed a tax on distilled spirits in 1791. This hit manufacturers of whiskey hardest, who began tarring-and-feathering tax collectors and inciting riots. The 'Whiskey Rebellion' was repelled, but it showed some early discontent for the federal government.

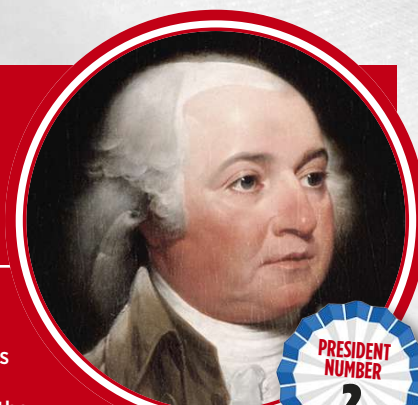
TOP FACT:

Throughout his life, Washington suffered from poor teeth. In fact, when he became President, he only had one tooth left. He wore false teeth made of elephant and hippopotamus ivory, as well as real human teeth taken from slaves.



JOHN ADAMS

Nicknames: **Old Sink or Swim; His Rotundity; the Colossus of Independence**
In office: **1797-1801**



PRESIDENT
NUMBER

2

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

Sandwiched between Washington and Thomas Jefferson, John Adams is often overlooked. Yet he was a Founding Father and helped draft the Declaration of Independence. Once President, he strengthened the power of the federal government – the United States would look very different today were it not for Adams.

FAILURES:

He served only a single term – and spent most of that time fighting Thomas Jefferson's faction, the Jeffersonian Republicans.

TOP FACT:

He was the first President to reside in the White House. The building wasn't even completed when he moved in with his wife Abigail in 1800.

WOODROW WILSON

Nicknames: **Coiner of Weasel Words; the Schoolmaster**
In office: **1913-21**

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

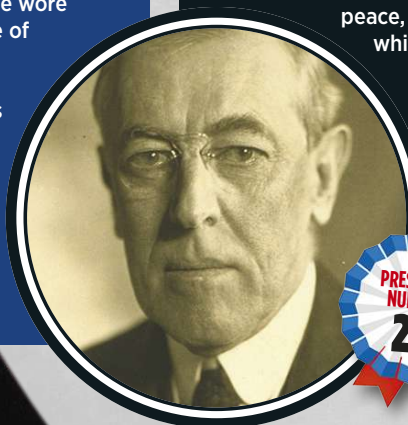
Wilson announced an unprecedented reform package, the 'New Freedom', which heralded in a raft of progressive domestic policies, including the 19th Amendment, which gave women the vote. After World War I ended, he put forward his 14 Points to establish peace, including the idea for the League of Nations, for which he won the Nobel Peace Prize.

FAILURES:

Wilson narrowly won re-election in 1916 on the ticket of 'He kept us out of war'. Yet in 1917, the US joined World War I.

TOP FACT:

Wilson became every mother's favourite when, on 9 May 1914, he proclaimed Mother's Day a national holiday.



PRESIDENT
NUMBER

28

FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT

Nicknames: **FDR; the Sphinx; King Franklin**
In office: **1933-45**

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

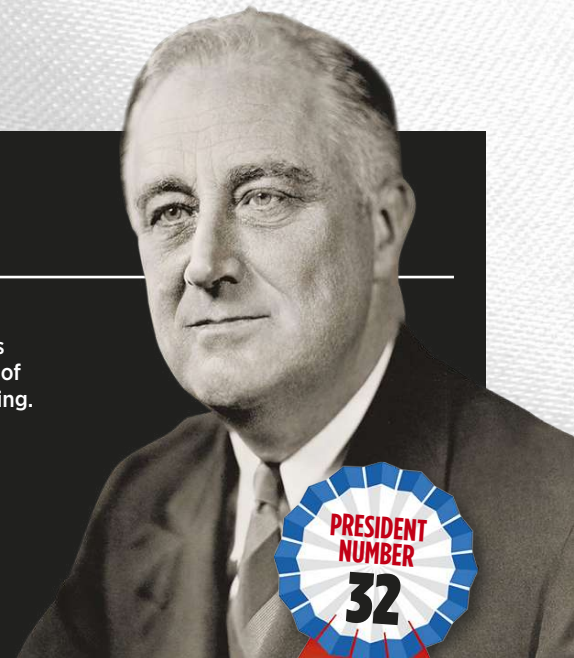
Serving for 12 years, FDR won a record four elections (something that can never be repeated as the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, passed in 1947, set a two-term limit), as well as overseeing some of the most significant events of the 20th century. His New Deal policies combated the crippling effects of the Great Depression, helped improve conditions for workers and gave an immeasurable boost to national confidence. In the aftermath of the Pearl Harbor attack in 1941, he took the US into World War II on two fronts and was an effective wartime statesman.

FAILURES:

It could be argued FDR didn't curb Joseph Stalin's expansionist policies. He died just before the end of World War II so played no part in postwar rebuilding.

TOP FACT:

FDR was an enthusiastic stamp collector. His collection, which accompanied him in a trunk, was thought to number more than a million stamps. While in office, he also sketched stamp designs and sent them to the Postmaster General.



THEODORE ROOSEVELT

Nicknames: **Teddy; the Trust Buster; the Rough Rider**
In office: **1901-09**

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

Theodore 'Teddy' Roosevelt remains a popular President for his larger-than-life reputation and his heroic military deeds with his cavalry unit, the 'Rough Riders', before he was President. In office, he implemented social reforms, the 'Square Deal', and spoke out passionately on conservation issues. As part of his environmental efforts, he created more national parks and forests. He is one of the four presidential heads depicted on Mount Rushmore.

FAILURES:

After his two terms, he supported his friend William Howard Taft's nomination but then turned on him. He formed a new party, splitting the Republican vote.

TOP FACT:

The teddy bear may be named after Roosevelt, but he was no great lover of animals. He went on safari in central Africa where he, and his companions, killed or trapped over 11,000 animals.

JAMES POLK

Nicknames: **Napoleon of the Stump; Young Hickory**
In office: **1845-49**

GREATEST ACHIEVEMENT:

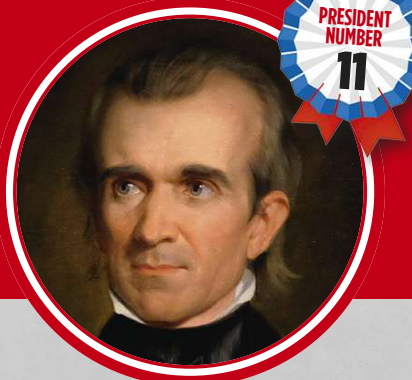
Probably the most important President you've never heard of, Polk was masterly in getting his own agenda carried out and controlling Congress. During his term of office, a number of institutions were opened, including the Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, and the renowned Smithsonian Institution. He also expanded American territory with military victory over Mexico and negotiated with Britain concerning the Oregon territories.

FAILURES:

His stance on slavery was in doubt, but he courted controversy when he refused to support the legislation entitled the Wilmot Proviso, which would have forbidden slavery in the new territories captured in the southwest.

TOP FACT:

Polk experienced the shortest period of retirement of a former President. He stood down after one term and died three months later, most probably from cholera contracted on a goodwill tour of the American South.



HONOURABLE MENTIONS

THOMAS JEFFERSON

Jefferson oversaw the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 and was a fierce advocate for religious freedom.

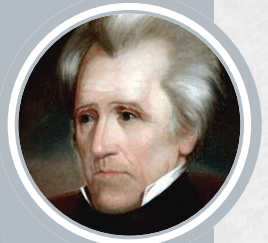
LYNDON B JOHNSON

A surprise choice considering the Vietnam War, but LBJ was the driving force behind the Space Race and signed both the Civil Rights Act and Voting Rights Act.

WORST PRESIDENTS THE WOODEN SPOON GOES TO...

ANDREW JACKSON

To many, Jackson is one of the best Presidents. His passing of the Indian Removal Act in 1830, however, gave the government the power to seize ancestral homelands of Native American tribes and force them to relocate. Thousands died from disease and starvation while trekking across the country - in what is known as the Trail of Tears.



RICHARD NIXON

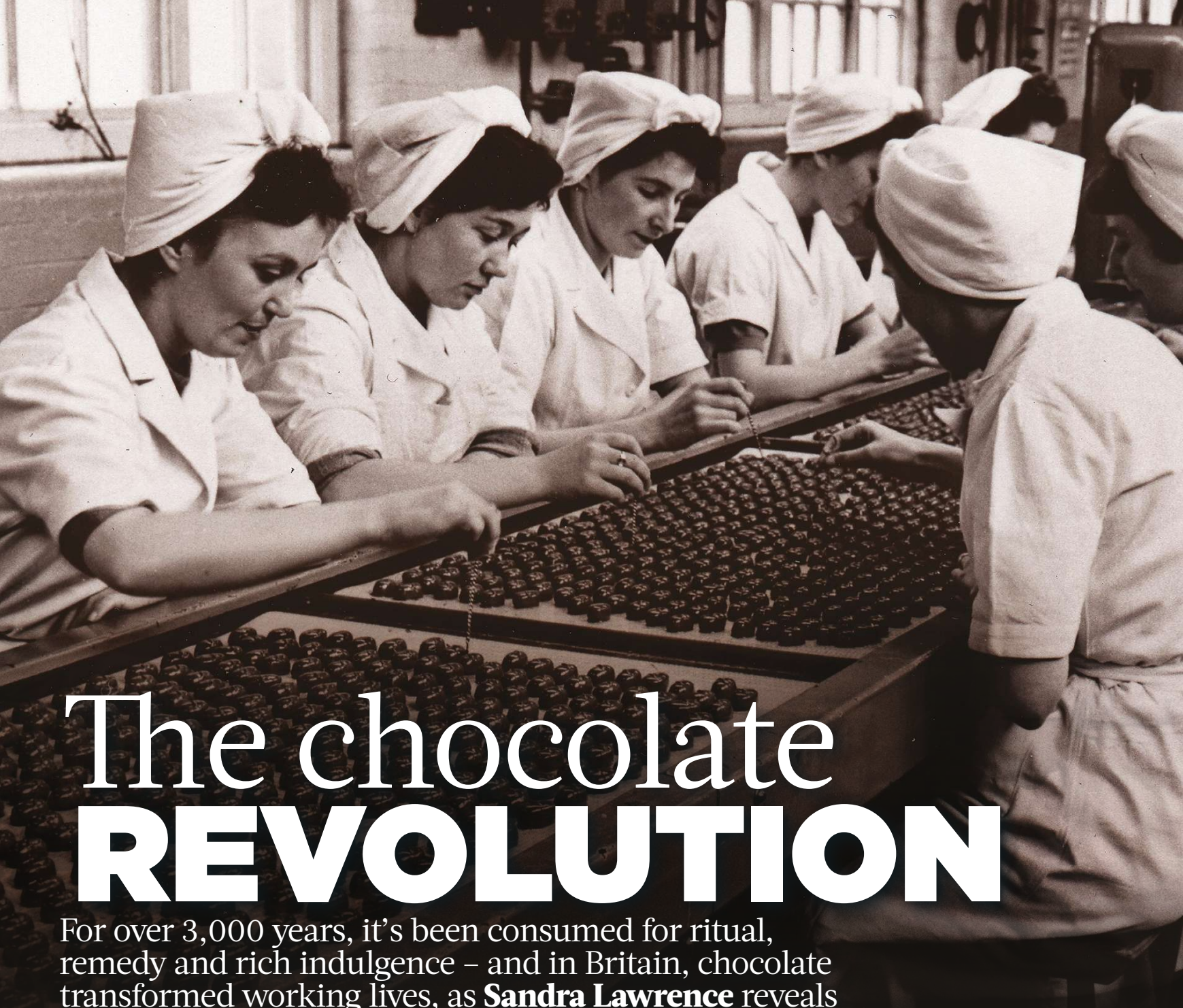
He may have been a gifted politician, but his reputation comes crashing down with one word: Watergate. Nixon faced certain impeachment and so resigned from office, the first President ever to do so.



WARREN HARDING

More concerned with playing poker than the affairs of state, Harding appointed his cronies to powerful positions and who went on to ransack the treasury. As a clincher, Harding once said about the presidency: "I am not fit for this office and should never have been here."





The chocolate **REVOLUTION**

For over 3,000 years, it's been consumed for ritual, remedy and rich indulgence – and in Britain, chocolate transformed working lives, as **Sandra Lawrence** reveals

BITTER ENEMIES

Aztec Emperor Montezuma offered Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés his **first taste of a bitter chocolate drink** as part of a royal welcome to the Aztec capital, Tenochtitlán.



MAIN: Women at the Rowntree's York factory, which radically improved workers' conditions, decorate chocolates in the mid-fifties.
FAR LEFT: Aztecs prepare cacao to produce *xocolatl*.
LEFT: Montezuma II, the last emperor of the Aztecs, in his finery

Bitter water may not sound like a good way to describe chocolate, but that is exactly what the original Aztec word *xocolatl* means – and the first ‘chocolate’ certainly lived up to this name.

The story of how it transformed from a bitter drink to the world’s favourite flavour is a long one – residues in pottery sherds suggest cacao was being prepared in Mesoamerican civilisations from perhaps as long ago as 1400 BC. And chocolate’s arrival on European shores was welcomed by both high society and poor workers alike.

The Aztecs, who dominated Mesoamerica between the 15th and 16th centuries, couldn’t get enough of the ‘brown gold’. They ground beans into a claggy, acrid drink, pouring it between pitchers until it foamed. Royalty, priests, warriors and sacrificial victims alike consumed vast amounts of the cold brown gloop, mixed with the blood of previous sacrifices. It set their hearts racing – literally. Allegedly, the Aztec Emperor Montezuma would drink 50 cups of the caffeine-laden drink before visiting his harem.

Cacao beans were also used as currency, but were vulnerable to forgery. Counterfeiters filled empty husks with soil and passed them off as ripe beans. Nevertheless, they were used as money right into the 19th century, from Mexico, Nicaragua and Guatemala right down to Brazil.

WONDER DRUG

Christopher Columbus and the Spanish conquistador Hernán Cortés may have tasted cacao-based drinks, and the bean is believed to have been brought back to the court of Charles I of Spain around 1528, touted as a wonder drug to treat everything from tooth decay to dysentery.

Europeans soon worked out that chocolate tasted good as a drink, especially when served hot, sweet and spiced, but it came wrapped in layers of political innuendo. Associated with nobility and religion, in France it became a Jesuit enterprise.

Two developments in Europe transformed the taste of chocolate into something more akin to what we know today. First, in early 19th-century Holland, chemist Coenraad van Houten developed a process to remove much of the cocoa butter, and added baking powder to create ‘Dutch Cocoa,’ balancing the bitterness. Then, in 1879, Swiss chocolatier Rodolphe Lindt invented the conching machine, which distributed cocoa butter evenly throughout the chocolate, and created a smoother texture and superior flavour.

Milk chocolate as we know it wouldn’t appear until Victorian times. Hans Sloane, Queen Anne’s physician (and, later, founder of the British Museum) saw mothers adding cocoa to their breast milk while he was in Jamaica in the 1680s, and dabbled with a version using cows’ milk but it was purely medicinal. Solid milk chocolate was developed much later, in the 1870s, by Swiss confectioner Daniel Peter.

But while radical changes in production were occurring across the continent, cocoa was making waves of a different kind in Britain.

When Charles II took the English throne in 1660 after years in exile, he was determined to have fun. The dark days of Oliver Cromwell’s Commonwealth were over. Christmas was reinstated, dancing was allowed again and there were even rumours of women appearing on the stage. Restoration England was lavish and every new delicacy streaming in from overseas was paraded for the Merry Monarch’s approval. Chocolate got the instant royal thumbs-up.

The first chocolate house had opened in Bishopsgate in 1657, and by the 18th century, chocolate was all the rage. At Hampton Court, William III and Georges I and II had their own dedicated chocolate kitchen, where the royal chocolatier

painstakingly ground, rolled, roasted, blended and spiced the drink. The kitchen, after somehow being ‘lost’ for a good couple of centuries, has just been rediscovered, amazingly intact.

Anything enjoyed at court made its way into fashionable London society. Coffee houses might have been all the rage in the business district, but most of London’s chocolate houses were the gentlemen’s clubs of St James and Piccadilly, such as Ozinda’s,



ABOVE: Thomas Rowlandson’s 1787 cartoon evokes a rowdy London chocolate house
LEFT: Grace Tosier became the ‘celebrity’ chocolatier of her day



White’s and the Cocoa-Tree. Over in Greenwich, the royal chocolatier’s wife, Grace Tosier, opened an exclusive chocolate house – a salon of gossip and influence. Her hot chocolate was sublime but her gloves, hat and full bosom were the talk of London.

The upper classes pursued their love of fine chocolate, mainly in the upmarket St James area around London’s West End. Today the tradition of exclusive, continental-style treats survives in Mayfair, home to those first chocolate houses.

In 1875, Virginie Lévy (née Charbonnel) and Minnie Walker opened Charbonnel et Walker, creating Parisian-style bon-bons for Edward, Prince of Wales. The company still supplies the Royal Family from its boutique in the Royal Arcade on Old Bond Street. Prestat, founded in 1902, also followed the French tradition, claiming the invention – or at least the refinement of – chocolate truffles. Its tiny,

“THE LAST AZTEC EMPEROR DRANK 50 CUPS OF CHOCOLATE BEFORE VISITING HIS HAREM”

FIT FOR A KING

In 1662, Henry Stubbe, physician to Charles II, published a book on chocolate, *The Indian Nectar*, featuring this recipe for a beverage with cinnamon, chilli and ‘Alexandrian rose’.

And, now I come to speak of the present ways of making *Chocolata*, I shall represent those ways, which are authenticated by Physicians; and among these that of Antonio Colmenero de Ledesma first occurs.

To every hundred nuts of Cacao he put two cods of Chile called long red Pepper, or one handful of Anise-seeds, and Orichelais, or Orejaelas, and two of the flowers called Mecucubill, one Vaynilla, or instead thereof (if the party were costly) fix Alexandrian Roses beaten to powder, two drams of Cinnamon, twelve Almonds, and as many Hazel-nuts, half a pound of Sugar, and as much Achiot as would colour it.

Paulus Zacchius in his Italian Discourse

jewel-like shop, in Princes Arcade in Piccadilly, still carries a Royal Warrant and produces chocolate of the finest quality.

QUAKER MAKER

The number of Quakers in Britain has never been large, but you wouldn't know it given their productivity. Barclays and Lloyds banks, Clark's shoes, Huntley & Palmers biscuits, Bryant & May matches – all remain household names decades or even centuries after their birth.

Leaders in the temperance movement, Quakers pounced on chocolate because, frankly, it wasn't alcohol. In days when 'fresh' water was undrinkable, most people lived on beer and, increasingly, gin. By the 19th century, cocoa had dropped in price and, because it was made with boiled water, was a healthier option than pretty much anything else.

The Quaker firms installed up-to-the-minute cocoa machinery, invented new recipes and created a new, distinctly British confection. John Cadbury opened his first shop in Birmingham in 1824.

Seven years later, he opened a factory and his business burgeoned – especially after buying a van Houten press to improve the flavour.

But this was manufacturing with a conscience. Cadbury workers were valued, given decent working conditions and even rudimentary benefits. Bournville, built in 1879 by George and Richard Cadbury to expand their father's business, was a 'model village' for factory workers. Its mock-Tudor finish, known as 'Cadbury Style', rejoiced in neat cottages, schools, leisure facilities and parks, promoting the brothers' belief that a happy workforce was a productive one. Being Quakers, 'happiness'

reintroduced cocoa butter to develop the first chocolate bar as we now know it.

In 1919, the two companies merged, but continued to run separate branding and we can enjoy Fry's Chocolate Cream or the eastern promise of Fry's Turkish Delight alongside Cadbury's Dairy Milk and Flake.

Further north, York was home to chocolate big-hitters – Rowntree and Terry. Both also Quaker businesses, Rowntree in particular followed the caring-capitalist tradition, shortening the working week, improving factory conditions and providing leisure facilities. The Rowntree Foundation and the Joseph Rowntree

Housing Trust still aim to tackle poverty. During World War I, Rowntree sent a special tin of chocolate to every York soldier serving on the front. Joseph Rowntree's early sweets were anything but worthy, however, combining chocolate and wafers to make 'chocolate crisp', and covering chocolate drops with

a colourful sugar coating – familiar today as Kit Kat and Smarties.


"IF A CHAP GAVE A BOX OF CHOCOLATES TO A GIRL, IT WAS TANTAMOUNT TO A MARRIAGE PROPOSAL"

did not extend to providing pubs in the town (there still aren't any) but despite – or perhaps because of – that, Bournville still regularly tops 'nicest place to live in Britain' polls.

In Bristol, another great Quaker chocolate maker, JS Fry & Sons, was also known for its socially enlightened views – the founder's nephew, Joseph, and his wife, Elizabeth, were prominent prison reformers. In 1847, Joseph Fry

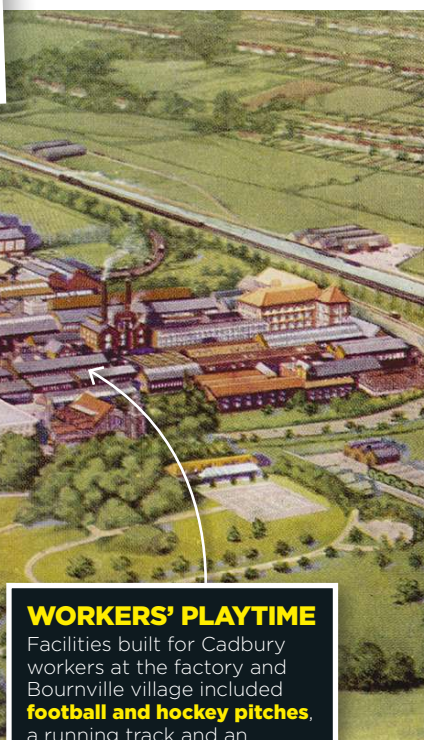
BOX CLEVER

Meanwhile, boxes of chocolates were slow starters in the mass market due to their prohibitive expense – chocolates in boxes tended to be handmade and could cost anything up to ten times a factory worker's rent. Because boxed chocolates were so pricey, if a chap gave one to a girl, it was practically a marriage proposal, making a simple gift on a Saturday night trip to the cinema rather loaded. Then, in 1933, Rowntree launched its Black Magic, a mass-produced, reasonably priced and subtly marketed package that shifted the public image of the chocolate box.

Chocolate is now more popular than ever – indeed, uptake by traditionally non-chocolate-eating nations such as China has led to threats of a world shortage. Cadbury and Rowntree have been absorbed into multinationals Mondelez and Nestlé, and most beans are now grown in West Africa. Today, Montezuma's bitter water is at the heart of a massive \$83 billion global industry. What would John Cadbury or Joseph Rowntree make of that? 



LEFT: John Cadbury, founder of the eponymous chocolate company, pictured with his family in the 1840s
BELOW: An aerial view of Cadbury's Bournville factory and facilities



WORKERS' PLAYTIME

Facilities built for Cadbury workers at the factory and Bournville village included **football and hockey pitches**, a running track and an outdoor swimming lido.

GET HOOKED

BOOK

The True History of Chocolate (2013) by Sophie D Coe and Michael D Coe traces our love of the bean from origins to indulgence.



WHAT DO YOU THINK?

Have we missed any important impacts chocolate made on our society – good or bad? Get in touch and let us know

Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

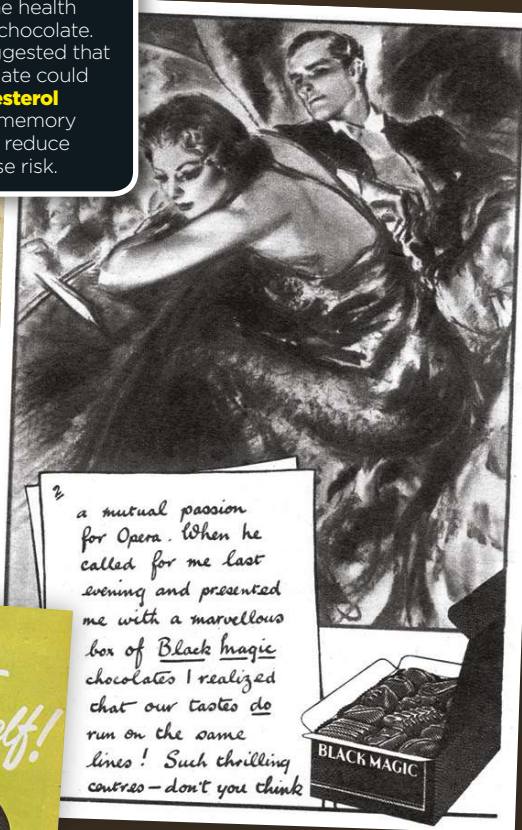


CHOC CURE

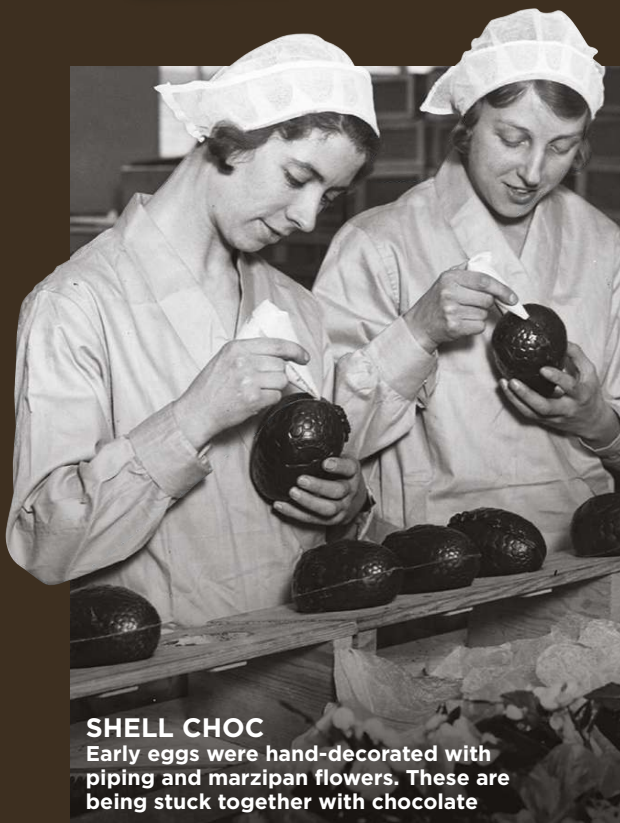
Claims have long been made for the health benefits of chocolate. It's now suggested that dark chocolate could **lower cholesterol levels**, halt memory decline and reduce heart disease risk.

NARY MILK

Fry's Chocolate Cream, launched in 1866, was one of the **first chocolate bars**. Despite the name, the bar is essentially vegan – the recipe contains no dairy products.



ABOVE LEFT: Turn-of-the-20th-century Cadbury's Cocoa adverts claimed that it was beneficial for athletes, children and the elderly
ABOVE: This 1947 ad for Rowntree's Black Magic hints at the romance of chocolate boxes
FAR LEFT: Soldiers in South Africa received chocolates (these from Fry's in 1900) from Queen Victoria
LEFT: A 1954 advert proclaims Fry's Chocolate Cream a cheap treat



SHELL CHOC

Early eggs were hand-decorated with piping and marzipan flowers. These are being stuck together with chocolate

CRACKING CUSTOMS

WHY DO WE MUNCH EGGS AT EASTER?

The egg has been associated with spring and rebirth since Pagan times, and was adopted by the early Christian Church as a symbol of the Resurrection. For centuries, hens' eggs – forbidden food during Lent – have been dyed red (to symbolise Christ's blood) or painted to make Easter gifts, a tradition that continues today, especially among Orthodox adherents. Western European confectioners made the earliest 'sweet' eggs with sugar. When the first chocolate ones were created in France and Germany in the early 19th century, they were solid, until a technique for moulding shells was refined.

The first British chocolate egg was made by JS Fry in 1873, two years before Cadbury. These early eggs were filled

L'OEUF SPREADS

The Orthodox Christian custom of giving painted eggs at Easter preceded the advent of chocolate treats

with sugar-coated chocolate drops known as 'dragees'. Fry's Creme Egg was launched in 1963.

The Easter bunny (sometimes hare) also evolved from folklore, in Christian tradition representing a kind of judge. In 16th-century Protestant Germany, the bunny decided which children had been obedient, visiting the 'good' ones with his basket of coloured eggs. The custom of hiding chocolate bunnies and eggs in gardens for children to find is still common on the continent.





AT A GLANCE

When Turkey joined World War I as German allies in late 1914, fighting on the Western Front had stalled. The British were looking for other arenas of battle, so the First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill, spearheaded a naval campaign to take control of the small Gallipoli peninsula on Turkey's coast and the Dardanelles strait, a narrow stretch of water connecting the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

If successful, the British and French could link up with their Russian allies and attack the Turkish capital of Constantinople. It was hoped the operation would be swift and decisive. Poor planning, flawed intelligence and fierce defiance by the Turks, however, meant the Gallipoli Campaign was an abject, costly failure.

A NEW ENEMY

TAKING ON THE TURKS

With weary smiles, Irish troops rest while serving in Gallipoli. The original plan to capture the Dardanelles did not involve deploying troops, but in the wake of a failed naval bombardment, landings are hastily organised for the nearby Gallipoli peninsula.

DISASTER AT GALLIPOLI

It is 100 years since the Gallipoli Campaign, and it remains arguably World War I's most catastrophic failure and tragic waste of life...



ROUGH LANDING

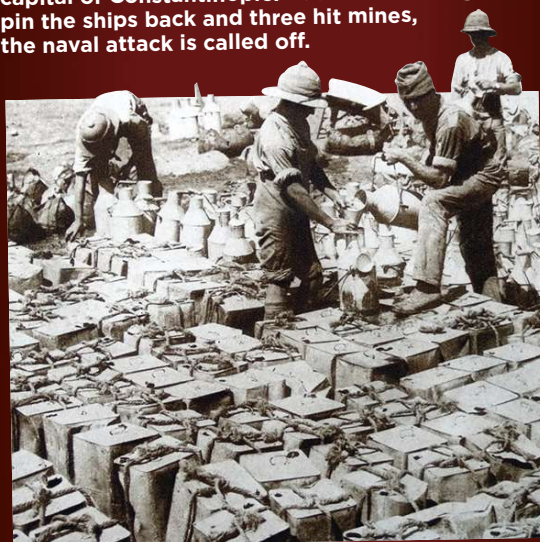
When a naval bombardment failed, thousands of troops landed with the goal of seizing the Gallipoli peninsula



SHIP TO SHORE

SHELLS ON THE DARDANELLES

On 18 March 1915, an Anglo-French fleet sails into the Dardanelles strait to bombard the Turkish capital of Constantinople. But when shore guns pin the ships back and three hit mines, the naval attack is called off.



LAND INVASION

FOOLS RUSH IN

It is decided that Allied troops should land at Gallipoli, using nearby Lemnos as a base. The hastily launched invasion under the command of British General Sir Ian Hamilton is high on risk and low on preparation – especially when it comes to supplies, like the filtered water above.

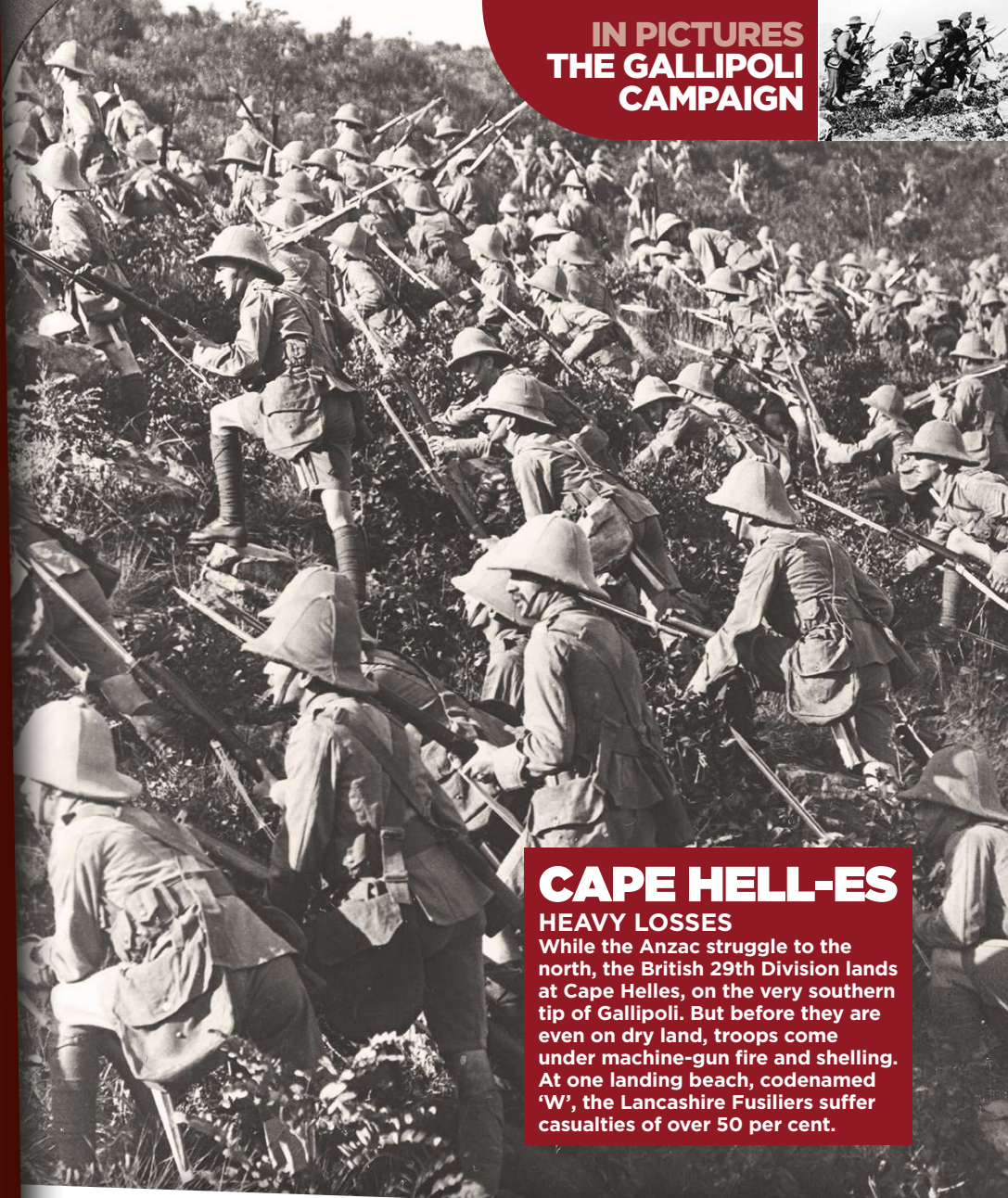


ANZAC ATTACK

HARSH WELCOME TO THE WAR

The Australian and New Zealand Army Corps, or Anzac, come ashore on 25 April – following a two-day delay due to bad weather – at a poor strategic spot. The small bay is surrounded by steep hills making it easy for Turkish forces to repel any sortie inland. The 12,000 or so men dig in at what becomes known as Anzac Cove.

IN PICTURES THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN



CAPE HELL-ES

HEAVY LOSSES

While the Anzac struggle to the north, the British 29th Division lands at Cape Helles, on the very southern tip of Gallipoli. But before they are even on dry land, troops come under machine-gun fire and shelling. At one landing beach, codenamed 'W', the Lancashire Fusiliers suffer casualties of over 50 per cent.

STALLED ADVANCE

TRENCH DIGGING

The two sides are quickly at stalemate. Trenches are dug and it appears that the horrors of the Western Front have arrived on the northwestern coast of Turkey. A month after the landings, pressure falls on Churchill to resign as First Lord of the Admiralty.





IN PICTURES THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN



BUILD YOUR OWN BOMB

STUCK IN A JAM

For months, British and Anzac troops wither in a blistering hot summer. As dysentery and other illnesses plague the trenches, medical and military supplies are not replenished. With nothing else to hand, bombs are improvised using old jam tins.

ART ARCHIVE X2: BRIDGEMAN IMAGES X1: GETTY X4

TALL ORDER

AN UPHILL BATTLE

On the rocky slopes of Steele's Post, above Anzac Cove, shelter is limited and the fighting fierce. The numbers of dead bodies are so extensive - and smell so badly in the heat - that temporary truces have to be called so that the dead can be retrieved.

STOUT DEFENCE

The Gallipoli Campaign was not just a miserable Allied failure, but a resounding Turkish victory



THE TURK TERROR

LEADING FROM THE FRONT

Mustafa Kemal (right) commands the Turkish forces from the front line of battle with formidable ability and resolve. For his success at Gallipoli, he became a national hero in Turkey and went on to be the country's first President in 1923.



NOWHERE TO HIDE

CAN YOU SPOT THE SNIPER?

This is one sniper that won't harrass Anzac troops as he is taken into custody. Snipers in the hills mean Allied troops never get a moment's peace.

TAKING A TOLL

"I DO NOT ORDER YOU TO ATTACK, I ORDER YOU TO DIE."

Kemal sacrifices huge numbers of his soldiers in his defensive tactics. As well as those taken prisoner, it is thought that by the end, the total casualties for the Turks exceeds 250,000.



HE AIN'T HEAVY

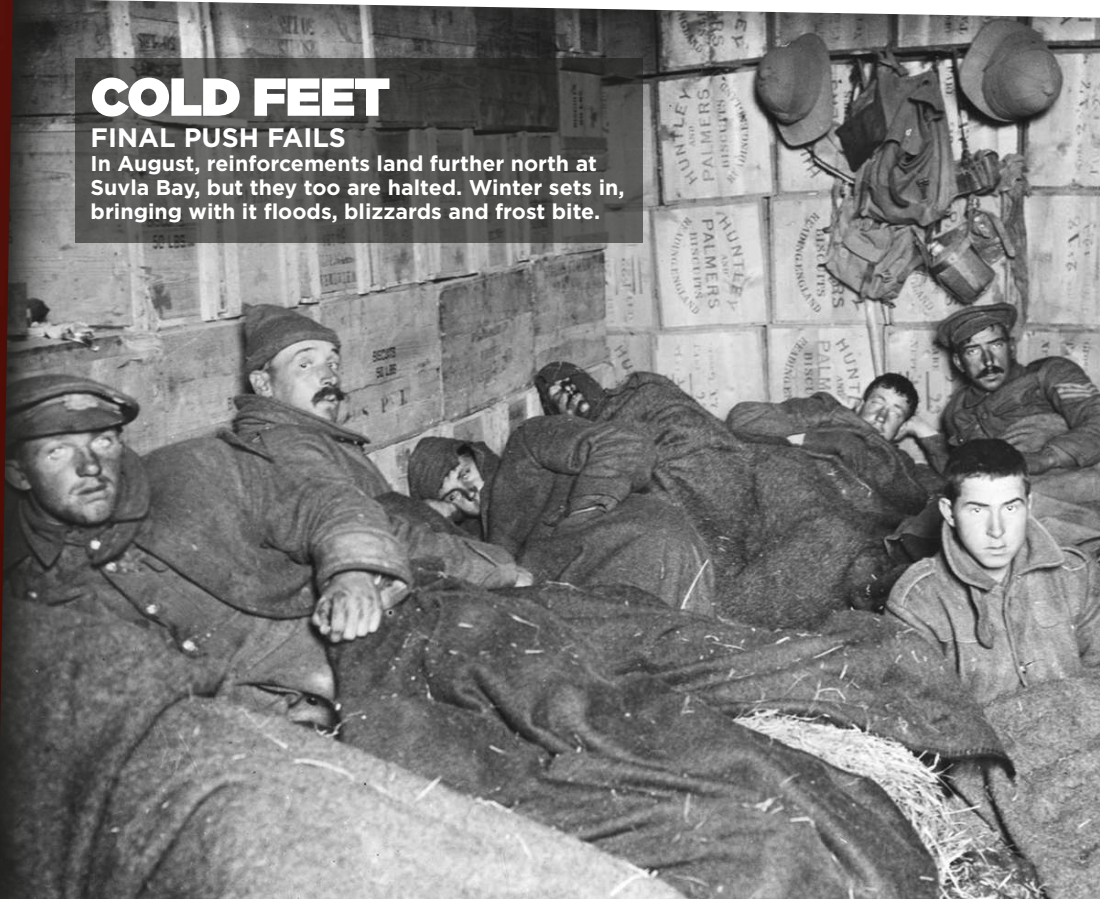
THE BATTLE OF LONE PINE

In order to divert Turkish forces from other offensives, the First Australian Division attacks the Turks at Lone Pine on 6 August. Despite being a small force, they capture the enemy trench but become trapped in a brutal four-day battle. For their courage at Lone Pine, seven Australians are awarded the Victoria Cross.

COLD FEET

FINAL PUSH FAILS

In August, reinforcements land further north at Suvla Bay, but they too are halted. Winter sets in, bringing with it floods, blizzards and frost bite.





IN PICTURES THE GALLIPOLI CAMPAIGN



PAYING RESPECT

WE WILL REMEMBER THEM
Not many of the soldiers who died at Gallipoli were buried. In all, the eight-month campaign claimed the lives of over 100,000 men – two-thirds of them Turks.

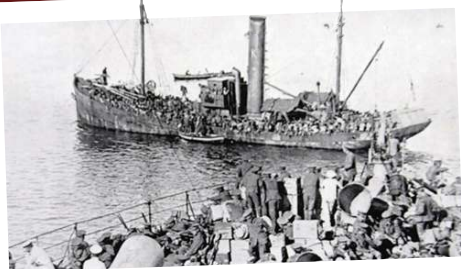
**“DAMN THE DARDANELLES,
THEY WILL BE OUR GRAVE.”**

ADMIRAL LORD JOHN FISHER, APRIL 1915

ART ARCHIVE XI, GETTY XI, PRESS ASSOCIATION XI, TOPFOTO XI

GOODBYE GALLIPOLI

When General Sir Charles Monro took over command – and minister of war Lord Kitchener visited Gallipoli – a full evacuation was ordered



ALL ABOARD

FILLED TO THE GUNNELS

Getting the tens of thousands of troops on board the evacuation ships took a month.

WATER GUN

RAFTS TO THE RESCUE

Soldiers squeeze next to weapons being towed away from Gallipoli on small, wooden rafts.



GREAT WITHDRAWAL

SOMETHING TO PRAISE

The evacuation is well-organised and executed – by far the campaign's greatest triumph.



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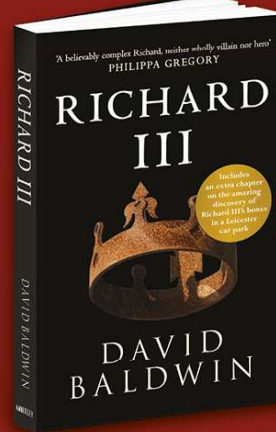
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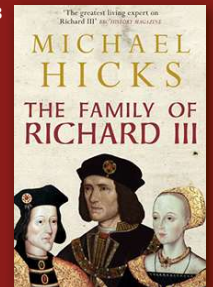
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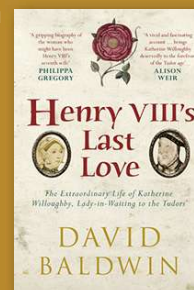
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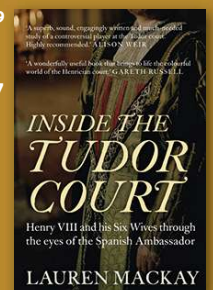
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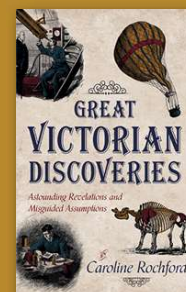
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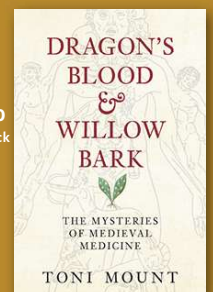
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Goodfellas

Tom Symmons delves into the murky underworld of the New York mafia to uncover the true story of a real 'wiseguy'

Henry Hill was just 11 years old when he began working for the New York mafia. Starting his career as an errand boy, he soon became involved in numerous criminal enterprises, taking on increasingly lucrative jobs and eventually helping to pull off one of the biggest heists in US history. For three decades, he was a highly valued member of the larger crime family – until he was 'collared' as part of a drugs bust and became a liability to the mob. Fearing execution by his former associates, he broke the mafia oath of silence. After 30 years as a mobster, Hill turned informant: he became a 'rat'.

Wiseguy: Life in a Mafia Family (1986), written by reporter Nicholas Pileggi, chronicles Henry Hill's life of crime. Beginning with his early involvement with the mob in the late fifties, it follows him through his heyday in the sixties and seventies to his arrest and entrance into the witness protection programme in 1980. This intimate account of life inside the mafia formed the basis for director Martin Scorsese's highly acclaimed film *Goodfellas* (1990).

MOB RULE

Henry Hill was born in 1943 to an Irish-American father and Italian-American mother. Growing up in the fifties in Brownsville, a poor district of Brooklyn, New York City, he was inexorably drawn to the mafia lifestyle. Living with his parents and six siblings, his home was cramped and chaotic, and money was tight. His lifestyle was a world away from that of the local mafiosi who socialised at the Tuddy Vario cab stand across the street. The impressionable youth envied the men's luxury cars, expensive clothes and jewellery, and noticed the great deference they were shown in the neighbourhood. Determined to wield the power and enjoy the wealth they did, Hill made it his ambition to become a 'wiseguy' – a recognised member of the mafia.



BREAKING RANKS

When he was a young man, Hill served three years **in the army** to please his father, who strongly disapproved of him working for the local mob.

"As far back as I can remember, I've always wanted to be a gangster."

MAIN: *Goodfellas* depicts the violence of mob life,

though only a handful of deaths are actually shown

LEFT: Henry Hill was first arrested at the age of 16, for attempting to use a stolen credit card

In his early teens, he became a gofer at the cab stand and at other local businesses, winning the approval of Tuddy Vario and his brother Paul, a high-ranking mafia member, or *capo*, in the Lucchese crime family. Hill was smart, industrious and willing to hustle for whatever errands needed running. He was also very quick to act on an opportunity: when asked to run sandwiches from the luncheonette to illegal card games, Hill made the snacks at home and pocketed the money. Soon he was given various other responsibilities, from parking the coveted mob limousines through to running 'numbers' for illegal lotteries and launching arson attacks on rival businesses.

Hill's commitment to his chosen career came at the expense of his studies, a situation to which his parents were alerted by a letter from the school truancy officer. His underworld employers swiftly remedied the problem by threatening the local mailman to ensure that he delivered no more such letters.

The importance of remaining tight-lipped was impressed on Hill early in his criminal career. At the age of 16, he was arrested for the first time, for attempting to use a stolen credit card. At the station,

the police attempted to force a confession from Hill, but he gave only his name. This refusal to talk earned him a great deal of respect from his mafia superiors, for whom the most important principle is the oath of silence, *omertà*: breaking it is punishable by death.

CRIME PAYS

The apparent invulnerability of his 'wiseguy' friends underpinned Hill's belief that honesty is for the weak and vulnerable. People who worked legitimately and obeyed the law were looked down upon as fools who were going nowhere, and were fair game to the predatory mafia. While still in his teens, Hill was earning more money than most people in his neighbourhood.

In 1965, Hill met and married Karen Friedman, and they had two children. The money, power and privilege that came with the mafia lifestyle was a seductive alternative to the mundane, humdrum existence that was the norm

THE FACTS

Release date: 1990

Director:

Martin Scorsese

Cast:

Robert De Niro, Ray

Liotta, Joe Pesci,

Lorraine Bracco,

Paul Sorvino,

Henny Youngman



LUCK OF THE IRISH

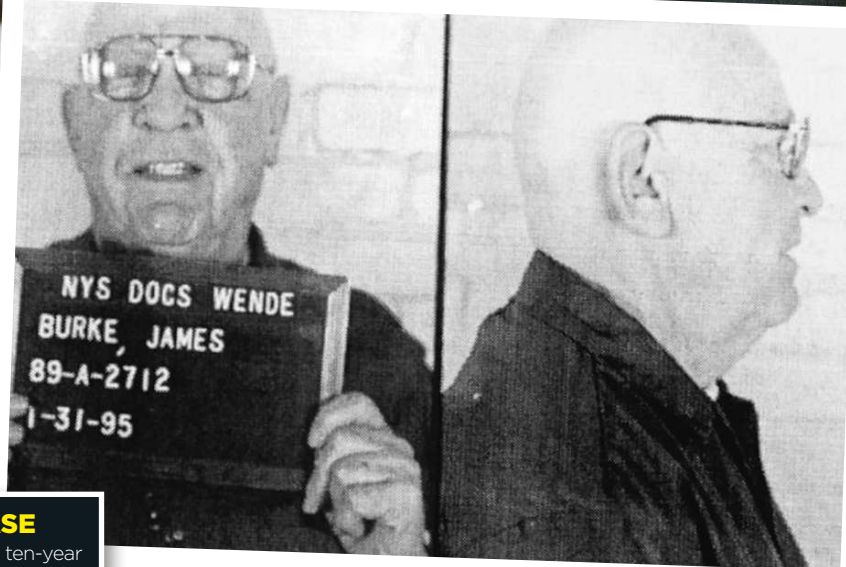
Hill was ineligible to become a 'made man' because he was not of **full Italian descent** – his father was of Irish stock.

“The heist netted \$6 million – but it led to the downfall of all involved.”



QUICK RELEASE

When Hill received a ten-year sentence for extortion, he **bribed prison officials** to get out after four years.



“It’s like a license to steal. It’s a license to do anything.”

ABOVE: James ‘Jimmy the Gent’ Burke was a successful hijacker and robber, but also, according to Henry Hill, a “homicidal maniac” who, Hill claimed, killed some 60 or 70 people
LEFT: After turning informant and entering witness protection, Henry Hill and his family relocated ten times to keep ahead of possible mob killers looking for revenge

“12 or 13 bodies
were found each
year in car boots.”



CAPO FEAR

Though Paul Vario was depicted in *Goodfellas* (by Paul Cicero) as a warm, mellow man, in fact he had a **violent temper**, once assaulting a maitre d' who had spilled wine on his wife's dress.



“Never rat on your friends and always keep your mouth shut.”

ABOVE: Paul Vario, pictured in 1969 in a police van in Nassau County, New York, was a *capo* in the Lucchese crime family. He made large sums hijacking trucks leaving JFK airport, and approved Burke's 1978 Lufthansa heist that netted \$6 million. RIGHT: Karen Friedman (played by Lorraine Bracco in *Goodfellas*) is congratulated by Paul Cicero (Paul Sorvino) on her wedding to Henry Hill. In real life, Karen and Henry were introduced by Paul Vario's son



MADE WOMAN

Karen Friedman eloped with Henry Hill just a few **months after they met**. They married in North Carolina in 1965, later returning to New York to live with Karen's parents.

for most women: many gravitated towards mobsters. Karen was thrilled that her husband was an 'action guy' who commanded enormous respect. When they went out together, she felt like 'somebody'. At the upmarket Copacabana club, the couple always had a 'ringside' table next to the stage and were bought champagne by the club's wealthy patrons. But the relationship was tumultuous, and both Karen and Henry were involved in extramarital affairs.

Moral boundaries often became blurred, particularly during tough economic times. Many legitimate businessmen admired the mafia's entrepreneurial enterprise and willingness to bend the rules, and would accept occasional bribes to earn extra income. The success of the mob's varied and lucrative criminal operations also relied on regularly paying off corrupt judges, lawyers and policemen.

There were, though, times when Hill was unable to beat the charges against him. But as most prisons were mafia run, gang members served out their sentences in relative luxury. They were housed away from the rest of the convicts, and

prison officials turned a blind eye to creature comforts such as food and alcohol being smuggled in by friends and family. During one spell behind bars, Hill even persuaded prison officials to release him on weekends to undertake 'religious training' as part of his rehabilitation – time he actually spent in Atlantic City, gambling with friends and associates.

FRIENDS LIKE THESE

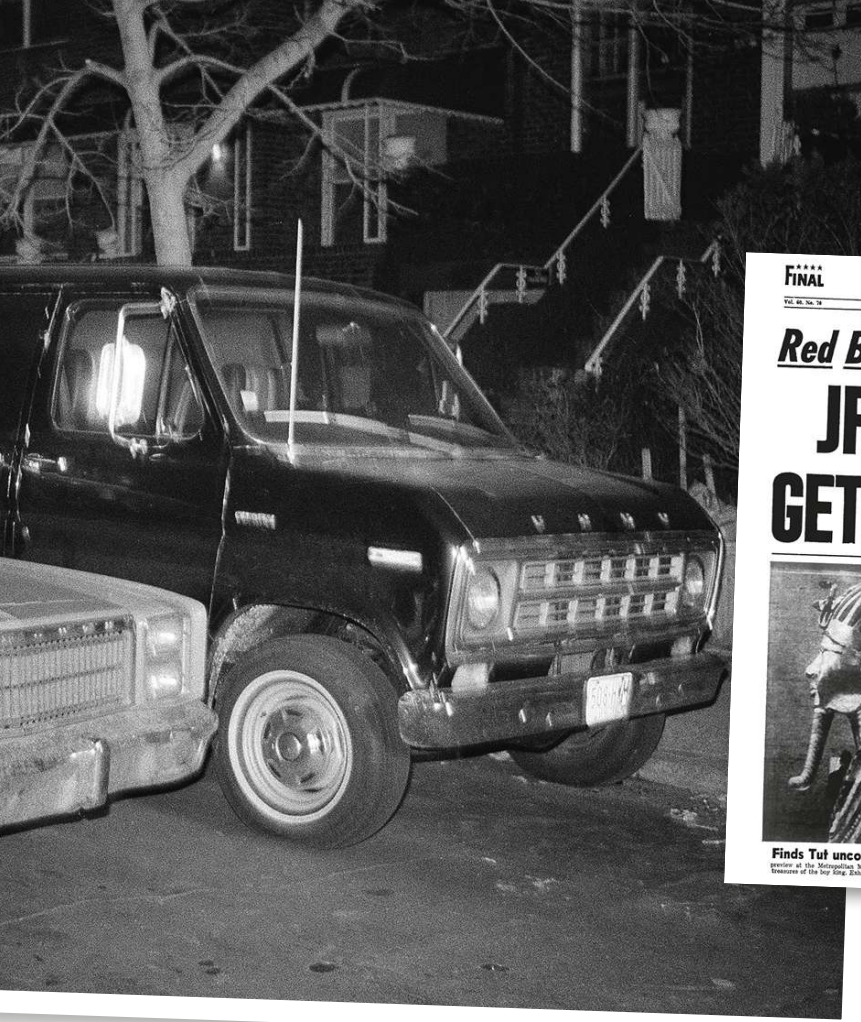
Among those associates was the notorious James 'Jimmy the Gent' Burke, a long-time associate of the Varios. In the sixties, Burke mentored Hill and another young foot soldier, Thomas ('Two-Gun Tommy') DeSimone. Hill and DeSimone started out selling stolen merchandise for Burke before becoming members of his crew and graduating to hijacking trucks.

Hijacking was Burke's true passion – and he excelled at it. Many police officers were on the gang leader's payroll, and Burke tipped delivery drivers for the 'inconvenience' of stealing their cargo – hence his 'Gent' nickname. But when it came to dealing with any potential witnesses or informants who threatened

his highly lucrative criminal enterprise, Burke was utterly ruthless. Some 12 or 13 dead bodies were discovered each year locked in the boots of stolen cars abandoned in the vicinity of JFK airport, where Burke and his gang operated.

Burke and Hill were behind two major heists at JFK. The first was the 1968 Air France robbery, which landed a \$420,000 haul. The success of this job lifted them to a higher echelon within the mafia, though neither was eligible to become a 'made man' – a fully initiated member – as they were not of pure Italian descent.

Ten years later, they were involved in another, even bigger job. Hill was tipped off about a shipment of millions of dollars in untraceable currency due to arrive at JFK from Germany. Permission for the robbery was granted by the Lucchese and Gambino crime families in return for a 'tribute' – a substantial cut of money – and on 11 December 1978, an armed gang assembled by Burke, including DeSimone, raided the Lufthansa cargo vault. Burke's men rounded up and



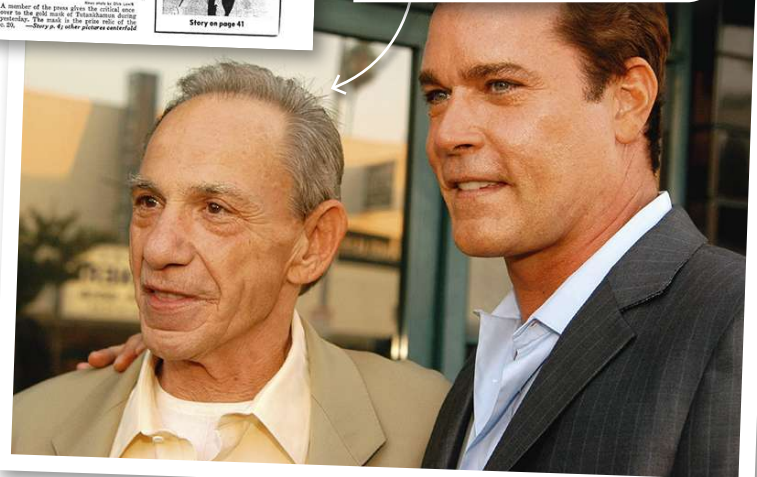
“Your murderers come with smiles, they come as your friends.”

MAIN: Police examine a stolen black Ford van discovered in Brooklyn after the Lufthansa heist in December 1978. Mob driver Parnell ‘Stacks’ Edwards was shot a week later for failing to destroy the van, which provided vital evidence
 LEFT: Headlines declare the theft from JFK of an estimated \$5 million in cash. The heist also took another \$1 million in jewels
 BELOW: Henry Hill made various public appearances later in life – here, in 2004, with Ray Liotta who played Hill in *Goodfellas*



CRIMINAL ON CAMERA

After he was **expelled from the witness protection programme**, Hill led a visible life, even appearing several times on the radio programme *The Howard Stern Show*.



handcuffed all of the employees working at the cargo terminal and forced the supervisor to open the vault before making off in a van, accompanied by a ‘crash car’ in case of police pursuit.

The Lufthansa heist netted the gang \$6 million – at that time the biggest cash robbery in American history – but it ultimately led to the downfall of all involved. Driven by greed and paranoia as the heat from the FBI and other law enforcement agencies intensified, Burke began to kill off everybody involved in the job except for a few key members of his crew. DeSimone, who had long been considered a loose cannon by the Varios, was murdered in revenge for committing the cardinal sin of killing a ‘made man’ without consent. Hill faced a similar fate.

RAT TRAP

Hill had been wholesaling marijuana, cocaine and heroin without Paul Vario’s knowledge. Like other mafia chiefs, Vario objected to drug dealing – not on moral grounds, but because of the risks involved. It attracted too much scrutiny from law enforcement and the lengthy sentences handed down for drugs offences increased the likelihood of convicted men turning informants. That Hill was a heavy drug user himself further increased the risks.

In 1980, Hill was ‘ratted out’ to narcotics detectives by one of his ‘mules’. He was convinced that both Burke and Vario

were plotting to have him killed, so to avoid mob execution or imprisonment for his crimes, he agreed to testify against his former associates. His testimony led to 50 convictions, including those of Burke and Vario. Henry, Karen and their children entered the witness protection programme, changing their names and moving to an undisclosed location.

For the most part, *Goodfellas* is true to Pileggi’s book, offering insights into the tribal relationships, criminal enterprise and casual violence of the New York mafia between the fifties and eighties. There are differences; many character names were changed (Burke became James Conway, played by Robert De Niro, while Joe Pesci was Tommy DeVito, not DeSimone). Hill is portrayed sympathetically, but in reality he was not the handsome, charming, likeable character played by Ray Liotta.

Hill had alcohol and drug problems for the majority of his adult life. He was charged with various, mostly drug-related, crimes over the following years, and was expelled from the witness protection programme in the early 1990s. He then lived openly in Los Angeles, where he died of heart failure in 2012. 📍

WHAT DO YOU THINK?
 Do movies like *Goodfellas* glorify gang culture?
 Email: editor@historyrevealed.com

Ones to watch: gangster flicks

Donnie Brasco

(Mike Newell, 1997) This compelling drama follows a conflicted cop who infiltrated the New York mafia in the late seventies.

American Gangster

(Ridley Scott, 2007) Denzel Washington plays Frank Lucas, kingpin of New York City’s heroin trade from the late sixties, with Russell Crowe his police nemesis.

Mesrine Parts I and II

(Jean-François Richet, 2008) Vincent Cassel



Johnny Depp and Al Pacino play undercover FBI agent and hitman in *Donnie Brasco*

gives a compelling performance as French criminal Jacques Mesrine, who became obsessed with his own celebrity.



Want to enjoy more history? Our monthly guide to activities and resources is a great place to start

HERE & NOW

HOW TO VISIT... TUDOR HOUSES 90 • BOOKS 94

ON OUR RADAR

What's caught our attention this month...

EXHIBITION

Lost at sea

On 7 May 1915, the RMS *Lusitania* was sailing from New York to Liverpool when it was attacked and **sunk by a German U-Boat**, in one of the most tragic losses of life at sea during World War I.

Lusitania was launched to restore British naval trade superiority, and was the world's fastest passenger ship. The ship's sinking, which **claimed 1,200 lives**, is remembered 100 years on in a powerful exhibition at Merseyside Maritime Museum. On display are objects pulled from the sea, such as one of *Lusitania*'s deckchairs, as well as the **captain's gold watch** and a model of the ship made from a salvaged handrail.

Opens 27 March
www.liverpoolmuseums.org.uk



Joseph Parry (above) was one of the surviving crew when RMS *Lusitania* was torpedoed

FESTIVAL

Small islands, big history

For five weeks, the Channel Islands will be transformed for their **Heritage Festival**, with museums, historic towers and wartime bunkers opening to the public and putting on a host of family-fun activities.

The festival runs from 3 April to 11 May. For more info, go to www.visitguernsey.com/heritage-festival

Festival events kick off at Guernsey's Castle Cornet



TV Home Fires

ITV, Sundays at 9pm

Curl up in front of ITV's new drama, based on the bestselling book by Julie Summers. *Home Fires* tells the incredible true story of the **Women's Institute** throughout World War II.

TWITTER

John Quincy Adams

@JQAdams_MHS

A fascinating, insightful – and often witty – glimpse into the life of the sixth US President with a single **line of his actual diary** being released every day.





EVENT

Egg-cellent Easter hunt

What better setting can there be for an Easter egg hunt than St Fagan's National History Museum? The young hunters will need to **uncover clues** around the grounds in search of their prize. *Taking place at St Fagan's, Cardiff, 3-6 April, from 11am to 2pm, for children three years and over.* www.museumwales.ac.uk/stfagans



The Patron by Joseph Peacock

EXHIBITION

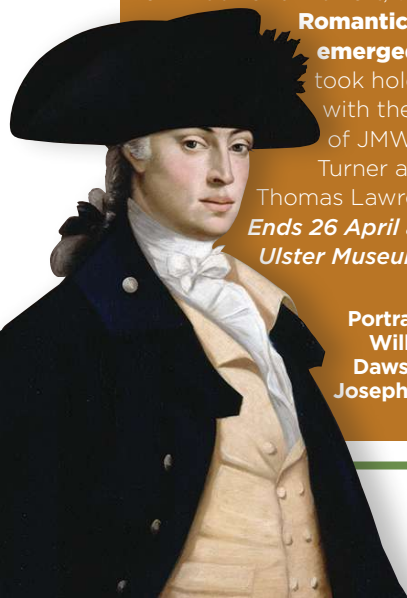
The old Romantics

This is your last chance to see *Order and Revolution*. The collection spans from 1740 to 1840 - a rich and golden age of British and Irish art, where

Romanticism emerged and took hold with the likes of JMW Turner and Sir Thomas Lawrence.

Ends 26 April at Ulster Museum

Portrait of William Dawson by Joseph Wilson



Maria Altmann, played by Helen Mirren, had managed to escape Nazi-held Austria

FILM

Art rescue

Woman in Gold
In cinemas 10 April

Helen Mirren glitters in this affecting drama based on the true story of **Holocaust survivor Maria Altmann**. Just before World War II, in the Anschluss of Austria, the Nazis had seized precious paintings by Gustav

Klimt belonging to her family. When Altmann learns about this in the 1990s, she sets out on a tireless, **decade-long legal case** with her young lawyer (played by Ryan Reynolds). She goes up against the government of Austria, and takes her fight to the US Supreme Court, to reclaim her family's property.

TALK

Bad King John?

What did King John do for us, and was he really that bad? These are the questions being asked by Professor Peter Fleming on the **800th anniversary** of the signing of the Magna Carta. *16 April, 6pm, at the M Shed in Bristol, BS1 4RN* www.bristolmuseums.org.uk/m-shed

APP



Streetmuseum: Londinium

FREE / Thumbspark

Here's a chance to become an archaeologist as you walk through the streets of Roman London. **Dig up ancient objects** at the sites where they were originally found.

TV

The Memorial: Beyond the Anzac
H2, Sundays from 19 April at 9pm

With access to the vaults of the **Australian War Memorial**, esteemed historian Neil Oliver explores Australia's history through the treasures of one of its most popular museums. *For more on the Anzac at Gallipoli, go to page 78.*



The memorial remembers all Australians who have died in war

▶ ALSO LOOK OUT FOR

- ▶ *A Little Chaos* in cinemas 17 April, with Kate Winslet as a landscape gardener at Louis XIV's court.
- ▶ *Great British Drawings* - the new exhibition at the Ashmolean, Oxford, from 26 March.
- ▶ The second series of rip-roaring BBC hit *The Musketeers* is on DVD from 30 March.

WINDOW PRESSING

The weight of the glazed third-floor long gallery caused the house to warp



DECORATED GABLES

Gable ends were frequently built facing the main frontage and decorated with carvings, statues or painted designs.

BRICK CHIMNEYS

Brick was a new and relatively expensive material, so in most domestic houses its use was restricted to the (equally novel and costly) chimneys.

HOW TO VISIT...

TUDOR HOUSES

Rupert Matthews reveals the important features common to the otherwise diverse domestic architecture of the 16th century

During the peaceful Tudor years following the Wars of the Roses, houses changed. Defensive walls and moats were no longer required; instead, comfort and light were the order of the day, possible thanks to the introduction of new building materials.

What is today considered typically Tudor architecture was in vogue rather longer than the dynasty for which it is named – from the 1470s to the 1620s. Diverse in form, its development was driven by a push for comfort and fashion, contrasting with the utilitarian styles of the Middle Ages.

Two materials that had been long neglected in Britain came to prominence: brick and glass. Both remained costly and were used extensively only in the homes of the elite, but are also evident in more humble dwellings. Even a farmer's home could boast a brick chimney and glass in the windows of the main living room.

Most dwellings were likely to be constructed with heavy timber frames infilled with wattle and daub. The black and white

colour scheme now thought of as distinctively Tudor is the result of later renovations: the materials were originally left unpainted.

Perhaps the most distinctive Tudor feature is the flattened arch that made wider doorways and windows possible. Less obvious to modern eyes was the proliferation of wide wooden staircases replacing narrow stone stairs in the homes of the rich. Gables and steeply pitched roofs also became more common as stone or tile replaced thatch. A burgeoning fashion for ornamentation was evident everywhere, often with a clear Classical or Renaissance theme.

The Tudor style was revived in the 19th century, commonly employed in railway stations, hotels and other public buildings. It later transferred to domestic properties, with 'Tudor' details adorning many of the suburban houses of the twenties and thirties.

TURN OVER...

for six of the best Tudor houses to visit



HALF-TIMBERED WATTLE-AND-DAUB WALLS

The gaps between structural timber frames were often filled in with wattle and daub, a structure of woven wooden lattice covered by a clay-dung-straw mixture.

PATTERNED BRICKWORK

Wealthier households were expensive brick structures, often with bricks of different colours arranged in geometric patterns that were originally enhanced with painted mortar.

COURTYARD

Tudor houses were often built in an H, E or C plan, creating one or more courtyards that allowed daylight to reach the windows of every room.

LONG GALLERY

The fashion for a long gallery emerged in the later Tudor period. Such a gallery typically ran the entire length of a house on an upper floor, and was used for entertaining and exercise.



LITTLE MORETON HALL

Cheshire

Little Moreton Hall was constructed in stages, beginning in 1504 and continuing to 1610 – almost the entire Tudor age. The timber-framed structure, built on stone footings and with a roof of stone slabs, stands within a medieval moat that surrounded the original fortified hall. After being allowed to deteriorate, coming close to collapse in the 1920s, the hall has been refurbished, complete with a Tudor knot garden. www.nationaltrust.org.uk/little-moreton-hall

INGLENOOK FIREPLACE

An inglenook, a recessed area around a fireplace, provided a warm and draught-free space in which people could sit during the cold winter months. The one at Little Morton Hall is a very small example.



ORIEL WINDOWS

Those built in Tudor times (though not seen in these photos) are among the most elaborate, with carved mullions and decorative supporting brackets.

TUDOR ARCH

Known more technically as a 'four-centred arch' the Tudor arch is broad and flattened to cover a wide gap with little height.

STONE FOOTINGS AND CORNERS

Stone was used to add strength and durability at key points. Wooden frames rested on stone foundations to inhibit rot, while stone was used for coping and corners on softer brick structures.

LARGE GLASS WINDOWS

Window glass was hand blown and expensive, but the size of windows grew rapidly in Tudor times as peace rendered arrow slits redundant.

SIX OF THE BEST TUDOR HOUSES



HIGH AND MIGHTY
Layer Marney Tower is
the tallest gatehouse
in the country

LAYER MARNEY TOWER Essex

The great tower at Layer Marney was built in 1520 as the gatehouse to a magnificent mansion that was never built – its owner, Lord Marney, died in 1523 before it

could be completed. The tower boasts a unique brick-terracotta construction. The adjacent church was built in a similar style.
www.layermarneytower.co.uk

MONTACUTE HOUSE Somerset

Montacute has survived virtually unchanged since Elizabethan times. It was completed in 1601 for the Phelps family who owned it until 1931, when it was sold to the National Trust. The long gallery is, at 52m, the longest in England. It now houses a collection of paintings from the National Portrait Gallery
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/montacute-house



TEMPLE NEWSAM Leeds

Though it now lies within the embrace of Leeds, Temple Newsam was built as a country mansion between 1500 and 1520. After decades of alterations by

Leeds Corporation, the house is currently being restored.
www.leeds.gov.uk/museumsandgalleries/Pages/Temple-Newsam.aspx

LLANCAIACH FAWR MANOR Caerphilly

Built in 1530, Llancaiach Fawr was unusual among Tudor country houses in being semi-fortified against the bandits who still roamed the wilder parts of

Wales. The 1630 extension is more luxurious and boasts perhaps the finest oak staircase in Wales.
your.caerphilly.gov.uk/llancaiachfawr

OXBURGH HALL Norfolk

Completed in 1482, Oxburgh Hall was added to and developed over the years. One of the most interesting features is a priest hole, where Catholic clerics hid from the Tudor authorities. Needlework by Mary, Queen of Scots, can be seen here, too.
www.nationaltrust.org.uk/oxburgh-hall



JOHN KNOX HOUSE Edinburgh

The link to Scottish Protestant Reformer John Knox is traditional rather than proven, but the house was definitely built from 1470 and restored in 1984. Today, it houses the Scottish Storytelling Centre. The Tudors never ruled Scotland, of course, so strictly speaking this is a Stuart house, but it displays many features of a Tudor townhouse.
www.tracscotland.org/scottish-storytelling-centre

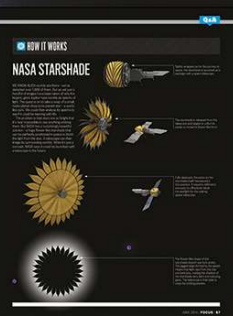


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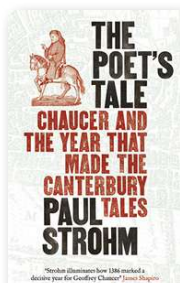


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BOOKS

BOOK OF THE MONTH



The Poet's Tale: Chaucer and the Year that Made *The Canterbury Tales*

By Paul Strohm

Profile Books, £15.99, 288 pages, hardback

You may be familiar with Geoffrey Chaucer's name from *The Canterbury Tales*, one of the most famous works of medieval literature. But what do we know of the author himself, and of the London in which he made his living? That's the focus of Paul Strohm's new book, which delves into the noisy, turbulent streets of 14th-century London and the tumultuous story of the poet's life. Far from the image of a writer in an ivory tower, this is a gritty tale of a man struggling to make ends meet – and of how such hardship helped him achieve his greatest success.



HARD-KNOCK LIFE

Chaucer's passage to becoming a major literary figure was far from a smooth journey



MEET THE AUTHOR

Paul Strohm explains how 14th-century London was the turbulent backdrop to the 'political factionalist' Chaucer carving out a life as a writer

"The life that Chaucer lived informed his poetry"

What first inspired you to write this book?

The notion that you can write about a life without going from 'cradle to grave' and, instead, you can pick out a turning point and write about that. My book describes a season of

crisis, rather than the curve of a whole life. This was an opportune decision, because evidence in Chaucer's case is quite uneven and I've been able to tackle a few critical months for which a great deal of evidence survives.

What sense did you get of Geoffrey Chaucer as a man?

He was someone who, in prize-fighting talk, knew how to 'roll with the punches'. As a political factionalist, he took some demeaning jobs, lived apart from his family, and consorted with some very dubious characters. But he did what he had to do to keep writing. He encountered

and overcame major obstacles in order to create the poetry for which we honour him today.

Would we recognise London from Chaucer's times?

Everybody says that it was smelly, dirty, crowded and noisy, and that's all true. But it also contained orchards, gardens and freshwater conduits, and its two square miles encompassed 90 parish churches – the loudest noise was the peal of bells. A medieval person would find our London unacceptably paved-over, with too few public spaces and constant, high-decibel stridency. Latrine and slop smells were prominent in medieval London, but a medieval resident would probably have preferred those more natural odours to automotive fumes and chemical toxins floating about.

If you could somehow travel back in time to ask Chaucer a question, what would it be?

My question would be: how could he, as Controller of the notoriously corrupt Wool Custom, be intimately associated with, and countenance, the biggest financial rake-off of his era, but remain cash-poor in his own right? Was this a matter of honour, of necessity, of indifference or of scruple?

What new impression of the poet – or of his life and times – would you like to leave readers with?

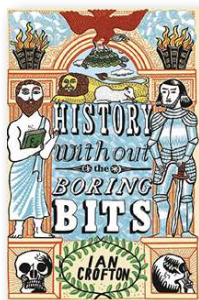
That he was involved in some borderline shady activities, but that he persevered and got his writing done. The life he lived informs his poetry: not as subject matter (he wrote no poems, for example, about the wool trade), but in attitude and perspective. His insights into human shortsightedness, folly and vice are those of a worldly man, but he retains his geniality in spite of all. His knowledge doesn't embitter him or make him cynical.

PUBLIC ADDRESS

Chaucer reads to the court of Richard II, an audience he was unlikely to have actually had



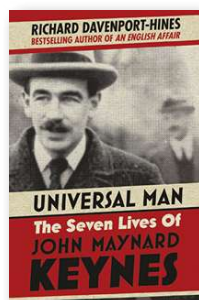
THE BEST OF THE REST



History Without the Boring Bits

By Ian Crofton
Quercus, £9.99,
362 pages, paperback

Far from the lives of kings and queens, this “chronology of curiosities” takes in both the lurid (tales of capital punishment, ancient lavatories, al fresco copulation) and the unlikely (mermaids, yetis, werewolves). As a history, it’s intentionally patchy, but it features vivid snapshots of how our ancestors viewed the world.



Universal Man: the Seven Lives of John Maynard Keynes

By Richard Davenport-Hines
William Collins, £18.99,
432 pages, hardback

Yes, it’s a biography of an economist, but wait: this is a compelling look at a figure who shaped Britain’s fortunes for decades. And it’s more about the man than monetary policy: there’s wartime drama, wanton sex, and – above all – an emphasis on the value of optimism and kindness.



A Visitor's Companion to Tudor England

By Suzannah Lipscomb
Ebury Press, £8.99,
326 pages, paperback

Take a tour of 16th-century England with this engaging book from the prolific historian and broadcaster. Lipscomb’s exploration of 50 houses, castles and palaces is arranged by geographical area, with stop-offs to consider wider social themes, including clothing, food and entertainment.

READ UP ON...

POMPEII

BEST FOR... A GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Pompeii: the Life of a Roman Town

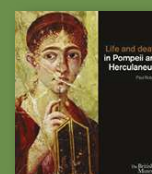
By Mary Beard
Profile Books, £9.99,
368 pages, paperback



Mary Beard is a fascinating guide to the final days of the Ancient Roman city before it was engulfed by the eruption of Mount Vesuvius in 79 AD. She’s keen to stress the reality of life before the disaster, while also debunking common myths about its aftermath.

BEST FOR... A VISUAL GUIDE Life and Death in Pompeii and Herculaneum

By Paul Roberts
British Museum Press,
£25, 320 pages,
paperback



If you missed the 2013 British Museum exhibition exploring the fate of the citizens of Pompeii (and neighbouring Herculaneum), this is an evocative look at their stories, along with the towns, streets and gardens they would have known.

BEST FOR... THE AFTERMATH Roman Disasters

By Jerry Toner
Polity Press, £20,
224 pages, hardback



How would wider Roman society have responded to the catastrophe at Pompeii? With a remarkable lack of surprise, it would seem. This book explores how constant danger and hardship had made Roman people incredibly resilient – and how they had even come to regard disaster as a good thing.

A MAN OUT OF TIME



BRILLIANT MIND
Matthew Landrus's book confirms
the depth and breadth of
Leonardo da Vinci's genius

The Treasures of Leonardo da Vinci

By Matthew Landrus
Andre Deutsch, 64 pages, £26.37, hardback

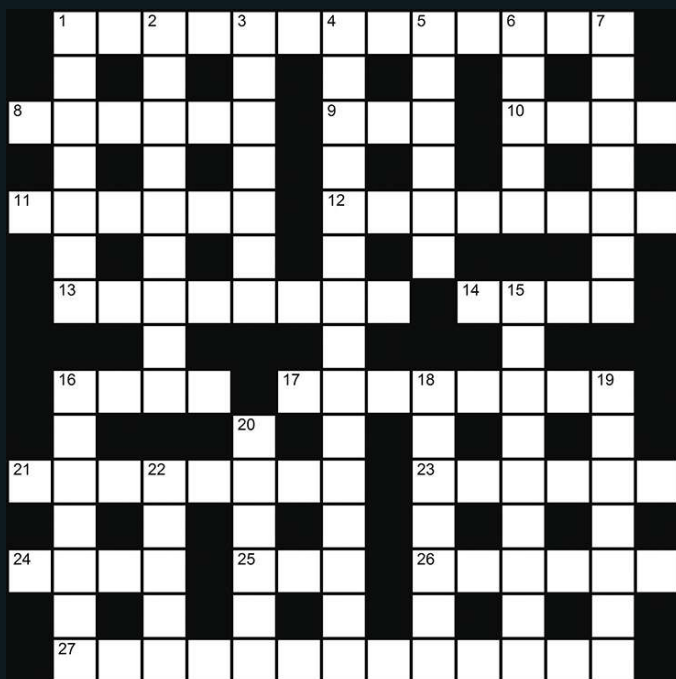
Painter, sculptor, mathematician, engineer: Leonardo da Vinci's talents were diverse and extraordinary. This visual guide delves into his life and works, friends and influences, as well as featuring reproductions of documents from key episodes along the way.



CROSSWORD N° 15

Test your knowledge of history to solve our prize puzzle – and you could win a terrific new book

Set by Richard Smyth



ACROSS

- 1** Emperor of Ethiopia 1930–74 (5,8)
8 ____ Wallis (1887–1979), engineer and inventor of the 'bouncing bomb' (6)
9 'The Shock Of The ____', 1972 work by art historian Ian Dunlop (3)
10 Port in Yemen, captured by the British in 1839 (4)
11 Historical kingdom of central England (6)
12 'The ____ Play', nickname for Shakespeare's *Macbeth* used by superstitious actors (8)
13 Port ____, Merseyside model village built to accommodate soap-factory workers (8)
14 Nell ____ (1650–87), actress and mistress of Charles II (4)

- 16** Robert ____ (1788–1850), Conservative statesman and Prime Minister (4)
17 In Ancient Rome, a term for the sovereignty of the state over the individual (8)
21 The Trevi in Rome, for example (8)
23 'Once upon a midnight ____' – opening line of Edgar Allan Poe's poem *The Raven* (1845) (6)
24 In Greek myth, the lover of Leander (4)
25 Charles ____ (1851–1902), US financial journalist who, with Edward Jones, gave his name to a stock-market index (3)
26 A Hindu spiritual retreat (6)

- 27** American child actress and, later, diplomat (1928–2014) (7,6)

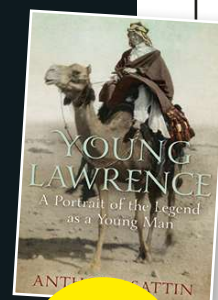
DOWN

- 1** ____ Gate, religious UFO cult based in San Diego, California, in the 1970s (7)
2 *The Age of ____*, 1920 novel by Edith Wharton (9)
3 Native name for the Basque country of northern Spain and southern France (7)
4 Nobel Prize-winning novelist and journalist (1899–1961), author of *A Farewell to Arms* and *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (6,9)
5 Margaret ____ (b.1939), Canadian writer, author of Booker-winning novel *The Blind Assassin* (6)
6 Christopher 'Kit' ____ (1722–71), poet and editor, admitted to St Luke's Hospital for Lunatics in 1757 (5)
7 Ralph Waldo ____ (1803–82), American poet and transcendentalist (7)
15 The ____, vessel that sank in the English Channel in 1120, taking the life of William Adelin, heir of Henry I (5,4)
16 Shape-shifting prophet of Greek mythology (7)
18 1957 play by Irish writer Samuel Beckett (7)
19 Kent seaside resort, once known for its Victorian pier (7)
20 Member of a Germanic people who sacked Rome in AD 455 (6)
22 In the Old Testament, the mother-in-law of Ruth (5)

CHANCE TO WIN...

Young Lawrence

by Anthony Sattin
 An insightful new look at the early life of the hero of Arabia, revealing his troubled youth and describing his search for love and meaning in the region that became the focus of his life and work.
Published by John Murray, £25.

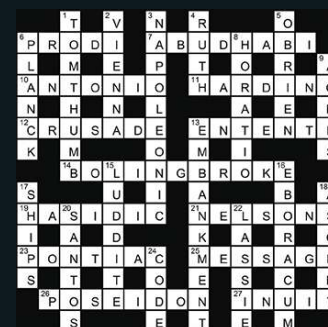


BOOK WORTH £25 FOR THREE WINNERS

HOW TO ENTER

Post entries to **History Revealed, April 2015 Crossword, PO Box 501, Leicester LE94 0AA** or email them to **april2015@historyrevealedcomps.co.uk** by noon on **29 April 2015**. By entering, participants agree to be bound by the terms and conditions shown in the box below. Immediate Media Co Ltd, publishers of *History Revealed*, would love to keep you informed by post or telephone of special offers and promotions from the Immediate Media Co Group. Please write 'Do Not Contact IMC' if you prefer not to receive such information by post or phone. If you would like to receive this information by email, please write your email address on the entry. You may unsubscribe from receiving these messages at any time. For more about the Immediate Privacy Policy, see the box below.

SOLUTION N° 13



CROSSWORD COMPETITION TERMS & CONDITIONS

The competition is open to all UK residents (inc. Channel Islands), aged 18 or over, except Immediate Media Co Bristol Ltd employees or contractors, and anyone connected with the competition or their direct family members. By entering, participants agree to be bound by these terms and conditions and that their name and county may be released if they win. Only one entry per person.

The closing date and time is as shown under **How to Enter**, above. Entries received after that will not be considered. Entries cannot be returned. Entrants must supply full name, address and daytime phone number. Immediate Media Company (publishers of *History Revealed*) will only ever use personal details for the purposes of administering this competition, and will not publish them or provide them to anyone without permission. Read more about the Immediate Privacy Policy at www.immediatemediacompany.co.uk/privacy-policy.

The winning entrants will be the first correct entries drawn at random after the closing time. The prize and number of winners will be as shown on the Crossword page. There is no cash alternative and the prize will not be transferable. Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited's decision is final and no correspondence relating to the competition will be entered into. The winners will be notified by post within 28 days of the close of the competition. The name and county of residence of the winners will be published in the magazine within two months of the

closing date. If the winner is unable to be contacted within one month of the closing date, Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited reserves the right to offer the prize to a runner-up. Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited reserves the right to amend these terms and conditions or to cancel, alter or amend the promotion at any stage, if deemed necessary in its opinion, or if circumstances arise outside of its control. The promotion is subject to the laws of England. Promoter: Immediate Media Company Bristol Limited

NEXT MONTH

ON SALE **30 APRIL 2015**

.....



BATTLE OF BRITAIN

**“NEVER... WAS SO MUCH
OWED BY SO MANY
TO SO FEW...”**



ALSO NEXT MONTH...

**KING JOHN AND MAGNA CARTA ACTIUM:
CLEOPATRA'S LAST STAND GREAT WALL OF
CHINA THE CROWN JEWELS MOORS MURDERS
GREATEST CITIES OF ALL TIME THE SPANISH
INVASION OF MEXICO Q&A AND MUCH MORE...**

HISTORY
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A-Z of History

It's dictionary corner for **Nige Tassell** as he delves into the dramatic developments and dates of the past

Declaration of Independence

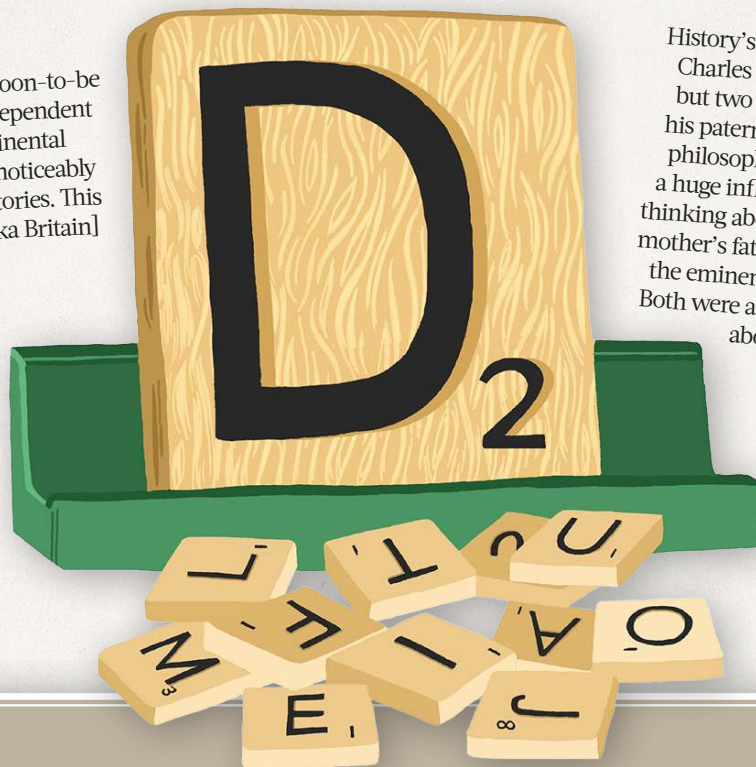
The first to sign the document that took the soon-to-be United States of America from colony to independent nation in 1776, was President of the Continental Congress John Hancock. His signature was noticeably bigger than that of any of the other 55 signatories. This was, he allegedly said, was, "so John Bull [aka Britain] could read it without spectacles."

DUNG

Birth control in Ancient Egypt was rather rudimentary. Around 1850 BC, women would use contraceptive pessaries made from a mixture of dried crocodile excrement, soda ash (sodium carbonate) and honey. The alkaline properties of the dung were apparently effective as a spermicide.

DOMESDAY BOOK

Commissioned by William the Conqueror in 1085 and completed a year later, this survey of England and parts of Wales was an attempt to log every landholder's land and livestock – and thus calculate their tax liability. Its assessments could not be appealed, leading it to become widely known as the 'Book of Judgement'.



DR JOHNSON'S DICTIONARY

Nine years in the compiling, Samuel Johnson's *A Dictionary Of The English Language* – finally published in 1755 – became the foremost lexicon for the following 150 years. But it was far from an instant bestseller. With a hefty price tag of £4 and 10 shillings (more than £600 in today's money), the equally hefty volume sold only 6,000 copies during the first 30 years of its publication – on average, that's fewer than one copy sold each day.

Darwin

History's most important naturalist, Charles Darwin, boasted not one, but two notable grandfathers. On his paternal side, the physician and philosopher Erasmus Darwin was a huge influence on young Charles's thinking about natural history. And his mother's father was Josiah Wedgwood, the eminent potter and industrialist. Both were ardent campaigners for the abolition of slavery.



DUVALIER THE DESPOT

When it comes to electoral fraud, few leaders have been as brazen as former Haitian dictator François 'Papa Doc' Duvalier. Elected president in 1957, he faced a problem: Haiti's constitution did not permit a second term. So in 1961 he held a further election to decide whether his rule should be extended. He received all 1,320,748 votes – not a single one was cast against him. "I accept the people's will," he humbly announced.

DANISH PASTRY

The popular confection isn't actually the product of the eponymous Scandinavian country. In fact, it was introduced to Copenhagen's bakeries in 1850 when a local strike forced owners to hire foreign bakers, many of whom came from Austria and who brought their own baking techniques and recipes. This fact is recognised in Denmark, where such pastries are called Wienerbrød – 'Vienna bread'.



DENG XIAOPING

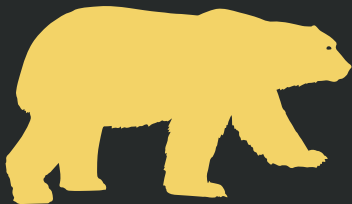
Born in 1904 in a small village in China's Sichuan province, Deng Xiaoping was a key figure in the industrialisation and collectivisation push of the late fifties, known as the Great Leap Forward. Purged by fellow revolutionary Mao Zedong during the Cultural Revolution, Deng was banished to a rural province and forced to work in a tractor factory for several years. Later he returned to Beijing and, following Mao's death, served as China's leader from 1978 until 1992.

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1854

A huge brown bear interrupted a church service after it escaped from a travelling showman



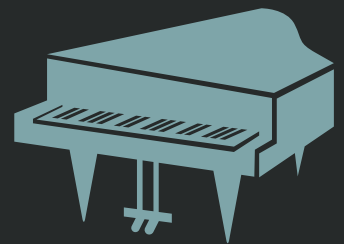
1947

Princess Elizabeth married Lt. Phillip Mountbatten



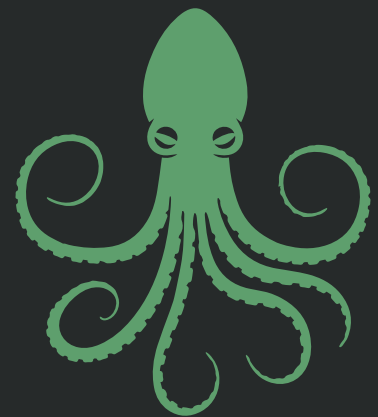
1765

Mozart visited London as a child, astonishing an audience with his musical skills



1896

An octopus attacked a group of women bathing in the sea



and Provinces in America, is now making out.
One Wolfgang Mozart, a German Boy, of about eight Years old, is arrived here, who can play upon various Sorts of Instruments of Music, in Concert, or Solo, and can compose Music surprizingly; so that he may be reckoned a Wonder at his Age.
Last Night at the acting of the Maid of

Newton remanded the prisoner.
BEAR IN CHAPEL.
Yesterday morning, during Divine service, a huge brown bear, which had escaped from the stable of a neighbouring public-house in which its owner, a travelling showman, was located, entered a Nonconformist chapel, situated on the high road between Barnes and Mortlake. Women shrieked and children cried, and there was a general rush for the door. Bruin, however, whose neck was ornamented with a thick chain, which somewhat impeded his progress, took things calmly, and made its way to the empty choir stalls, where

ALARMING EXPERIENCE OF FAIR BATHERS WHO ARE ATTACKED BY AN OCTOPUS.



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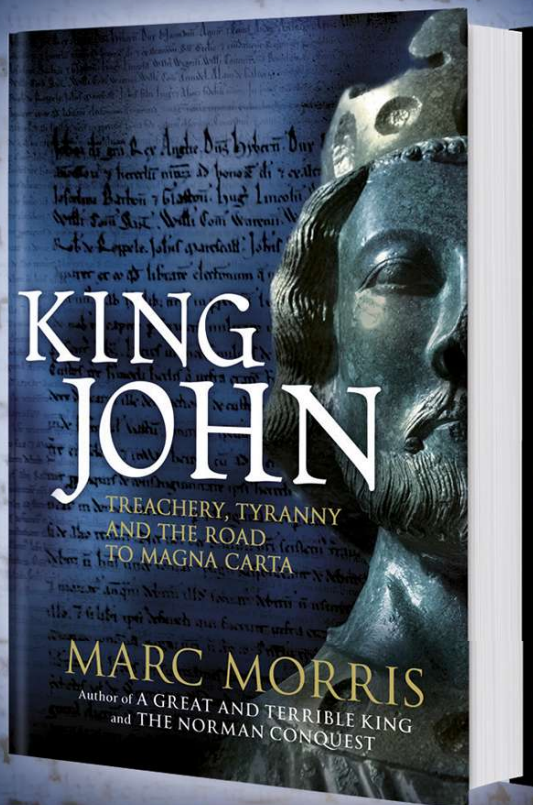
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TYRANNY GAVE RISE
TO MAGNA CARTA

KING JOHN



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